

Entertainment

Avatar leads Oscar pack

pg 20



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Warrant issued for murder suspect

WANTED A Canada-wide warrant has been issued for a Dartmouth man charged with second-degree murder in the death of another at a New Year's Eve party in Antigonish.

The RCMP say the whereabouts of Robert Harris Lamb are unknown and are asking anyone with information to contact police.



Robert Lamb

Lamb is a white, 20-year-old male, five-foot-nine and 145 pounds with blond hair and blue eyes.

The charge relates to the death of Jonathan Beaton, a 25-year-old from Southside Harbour, Antigonish Co.

METRO HALIFAX

News on the Move

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Vancouver Games

Countdown to 2010

Follow Metro as we bring you daily coverage leading up to the 2010 Winter Olympics in Vancouver.
• Today — High expectations placed on speedskaters, page 11



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Brrrr Wicked windchill



Dan Samson braves the cold weather as he walks down Brunswick Street yesterday in Halifax. Haligonians dealt with a biting wind yesterday that made it feel as cold as -25 C with the windchill.

RYAN KADUN/METRO HALIFAX

Police lead search for autistic teen

MISSING The search was on last night for an 18-year-old autistic girl who hadn't been seen since she left school yesterday.

Halifax Regional Police issued a release at 9:18 p.m. stating Jennifer Graves-Smith has been missing since leaving Halifax West High School at 3:30 p.m.

Police say Graves-Smith didn't take her assigned bus home and was last seen taking a wooded pathway from Halifax West toward the Keshen Goodman Public Library on Lacedwood Drive.

Police searched the area and surrounding businesses since she was reported missing on a bitterly cold day. Halifax Ground Search and Rescue was called in to assist due to difficult terrain.

Police don't believe Graves-Smith was met with foul play, and her being away this long is abnormal for her.

The missing teen is five-foot-eight, 130 pounds with shoulder-length brown hair and is known to turn away when approached by strangers.

Anyone with information on the whereabouts of Jennifer Graves-Smith is asked to contact Halifax Regional Police at 490-5016.

PHILIP CROUCHER/METRO HALIFAX



Jennifer Graves-Smith

Council does a U-turn

Taxi zones to stay; cabbies to keep 'deadheading' passengers

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Halifax regional council has scrapped a plan to eliminate taxi zones in HRM.

In early November, council approved in principle amendments to the taxi by-law aimed at reducing the environmental impact of the city's cabs. One of those amendments would have done away with the zone system, where cars can only pick up passengers in designated areas. Staff said this caused cabbies to drive back and forth between zones without a passenger — a practice known as

deadheading. Last night, however, council changed its mind and voted down the amendments after a first reading of the motion.

Coun. Steve Adams, chairman of HRM's taxi commission, said he was concerned there would be no fair way to merge the waiting lists for taxi licences in the various zones.

He said some people have been waiting for up to 12 years, and to simply add them to the end of a new

list would be "grossly unfair."

Coun. Bill Karsten disagreed, arguing the matter should at least be brought to a public hearing, and that several other important amendments were being thrown out along with the zoning changes.

A second taxi-related matter also came before council last night.

The Halifax International Airport Authority requested the municipality approve

new flat-rate fares to and from the airport, saying the current system does not encompass all of HRM and is confusing for both passengers and drivers.

Council voted overwhelmingly in support of the new regulations, which will divide the municipality into 19 zones, each with its own series of flat-rate fares. They range from \$12 for trips within the Airport and Aerotech zone, all the way up to \$202 for trips to or from Sheet Harbour.

The fares are designed to reflect a metered price, council heard, but passengers can still choose to have their fare measured by traditional meter.

Legacy Fund

• In other council news, councillors approved the transfer of \$103,785 in left-over funds from Halifax's Commonwealth Games bid to the Canada Games Legacy Fund.

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Local



Tickets still available for Arden show

Tickets are still available to see Canadian singer-songwriter Jann Arden, left, in performance tonight at the Halifax Metro Centre at 8 p.m. Arden has been touring across the country in support of her 10th album, *Free*, which includes the hit single *A Million Miles Away*. Tickets are \$63, which includes taxes and service charges, and are available at all Ticket Atlantic outlets, online at ticketatlantic.com or by phone at 451-1221.

METRO HALIFAX

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Two collisions land man in hot water

ROADS A 29-year-old Dartmouth man is charged with impaired driving and leaving the scene of an accident after police claim he was involved in two separate collisions yesterday morning.

Police say the first accident happened at 7:08 a.m. on the MacKay bridge, when the suspect's Dartmouth-bound vehicle allegedly struck a car then fled the scene toward Highway 111.

Next, at 7:55 a.m., police say the accused's vehicle was reported to have struck a pole in front of 47 Joseph Young St.

The accused fled his vehicle and ran inside an apartment building, but was arrested without incident.

There were no injuries, and the accused will appear in court at a later date.

METRO HALIFAX

N.S. puts hold on recreational funds

Demand prematurely drains \$68M B-FIT program

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Recreational funding in Nova Scotia is on hold after the province burned through 10 years of funding in under four years.

The government announced yesterday it had completely exhausted the \$68-million B-FIT program. When it was announced in 2006, it was supposed to last for 10 years.

"There is an explanation for this, and the explanation is there was a lot of pent-up demand ... because there hadn't been really a significant infrastructure program in Nova Scotia for some time for recreational facilities," said Health Promotion

Minister Maureen MacDonald.

MacDonald said only \$6 million of the fund was left when the NDP came into power. But she didn't admonish the Tories for spending the money.

"These projects around the province are good projects. If you look at the list, they will meet the needs of Nova Scotians for many years to come," she said.

"The public will have to be the arbiters, I guess, of whether that money was wisely spent."

There were 13 proposals outstanding when the fund ran out of money, but MacDonald said the government is now going to "take a break" from spending on new facilities, citing the

province's deficit.

Former health promotion and protection minister Chris d'Entremont confirmed the previous government fast-tracked spending to take advantage of matching federal stimulus dollars.

"The economy started taking a downturn, so we figured that's money that's sitting there, let's ramp it up and get people working," he said.

"There was all kinds of federal dollars that we could match up with. It was money sitting there waiting to be spent, so why not move that up?"

So far, 36 projects have received funding through the program, with two left to be announced sharing the final \$4 million. Of those, 22 received funding from the federal government.



Maureen MacDonald

Prospect Road 3-vehicle collision



A Halifax Regional Police officer walks in front of two cars involved in a three-vehicle collision on Prospect Road yesterday morning. Two people went to hospital with non-life-threatening injuries. The accident snarled up traffic for a few hours while police investigated the cause of the collision. A pickup truck was also involved, with the driver issued several summary tickets.

Trailer Park Boys join Halifax for Haiti fundraiser

Haiti Crisis

CHARITY The Trailer Park Boys are the latest big names to be a part of next week's Halifax for Haiti fundraiser.

Ricky, Julian and Bubbles

— the popular TV trio from Sunnyvale Trailer Park — will make an appearance for the show this Monday at the Halifax Metro Centre at 8 p.m.

Halifax-based DRUM! is the headliner, with other performances including names such as Joel Plas-

kett, Classified, Lenny Gallant, Bruce Gouthro, Matt Minglewood and Christina Martin.

Tickets are \$20 each and are available at all Ticket Atlantic outlets, online at ticketatlantic.com or by phone at 451-1221.

METRO HALIFAX

Charges, fines laid after sting on ATV drivers

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CRACKDOWN Several ATV drivers were handed hefty fines in a joint sting by police and the Department of Natural Resources this past weekend.

The crackdown was sparked by a large number of public complaints in recent months, police say.

"We've been getting complaints about people driving in areas they're not supposed to, loud noise, just varied complaints in regards to ATV use," said Halifax Regional Police spokesman Const. Brian Palmer.

Police and government officials staked out the Williamswood — Sambro Loop area Friday night and charged five people.

Four received \$500 fines for driving in a wilderness area. The highest was an \$800 ticket for removing a

"We've been getting ... varied complaints in regards to ATV use."

Const. Brian Palmer, Halifax police

sign in a wilderness area. These were levelled by Natural Resources officials enforcing wildlife-area protection laws.

Police also issued one charge of driving an off-highway vehicle on a highway and one for not displaying a licence plate.

"Those are some significant fines," Palmer said.

"It's our belief that the majority of ATV owners and users use them appropriately and lawfully. It's unfortunate there's a small percentage that don't. It's those people we're targeting."

Palmer said the increased enforcement will continue this weekend.

Former Moosehead charged with sex assault out on bail

CRIME A former Halifax Mooseheads goaltender facing sexual assault charges in Ontario has been granted bail and reportedly returned to his home province of Newfoundland and Labrador.

Mark Yetman, a 21-year-old from Mount Pearl, N.L., who was in his freshman season with the Brock University men's hockey team, is not permitted in Ontario's Niagara Region as a condition of his bail, according to the St. Catharines Standard.

He is due back in a St. Catharines court on

March 17.

Yetman is charged with three counts of sexual assault, two counts of choking and one count of threatening, according to the Standard, and was also suspended by his team.

He wrapped up a three-year career with the Herd last spring. He was among the franchise leaders in a number of categories, finishing third in games

played (108), fourth in minutes (5,669) and seventh in wins (43). He had a career goals-against average of 3.69 and a save percentage of .880.

METRO HALIFAX



Mark Yetman

Tim Hortons robbed of money

THEFT A supposed customer at a Tim Hortons in Dartmouth wasn't looking for a double-double with his donut — he wanted a handful of cash.

Halifax Regional Police say at 11:45 p.m., a man entered the Tim Hortons on Windmill Road, ordered a donut and then attempted to grab the till of the cash register when it

opened. Police say the female clerk was pushed several times as she struggled with the man.

The suspect eventually fled with an undetermined amount of cash, but left the till behind. There were no injuries.

Police describe him as a white man between 35 and 40, six feet tall and 200 pounds.

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Two people were hospitalized after a brawl took place following a minor hockey game. Police are investigating the incident in the parking lot of the Oxford arena Saturday following a minor midget AAA game between Cumberland County and Brookfield. The brawl was an apparent spill-over from action on the ice. **AMHERST DAILY NEWS**

Naval hero honoured with stamp

Historic Victoria Cross recipient William Hall 'a beacon and a standard to emulate'

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He died over a century ago, but Petty Officer William Hall can still draw an impressive crowd.

About 400 people — including cadets, military personnel, veterans, RCMP officers, and members of the public — packed both levels of the Black Cultural Centre in North Preston yesterday to watch as Canada Post unveiled a brand new stamp honouring the naval hero.

In 1859, Hall became the first Canadian sailor, the first Nova Scotian, and the first black man awarded the Victoria Cross — Britain's highest honour.

"It's a very proud day for myself and the family," said Master Cpl. Phillip Safire, whose great-grandmother was Hall's first cousin.



Rear Admiral Paul Maddison and Lt.-Gov. Mayann Francis unveil a new stamp honouring William Hall during a ceremony at the Black Cultural Centre yesterday. Hall was the first Canadian sailor, the first Nova Scotian and the first black man to receive the Victoria Cross from the British Royal Navy.

"Considering he had no funeral with military honours, I think this is a good way to honour him."

Safire said he grew up hearing about his ancestor's heroic defence of a British garrison during a battle in India in 1857. History recorded that Hall continued fighting long after most of his comrades had been killed.

"He was held as a beacon and a standard to emulate," Safire said. "I hope one day, in some small measure, to live up to that expectation."

The stamp shows an older, fully decorated Hall standing proudly in front of the ocean. A navy ship can be seen in the background. Robert Waite, chairman of Canada Post's Stamp Advi-

sory Committee, said the selection of Hall as a subject was one of the easiest decisions the committee has ever made.

"February is Black Heritage Month, and this year being the 100th anniversary of the Canadian Navy ... It all came together," he said. "There was really no great debate."

Waite, who has attended dozens of unveilings, said he was extremely impressed with the turnout for yesterday's event.

"The only one in my memory being close to this was the one for Oscar Peterson in Toronto," he said, glancing around the room. "As far as a community event, this is certainly the largest."

Stamp stats

- Approximately 1.6 million William Hall stamps have been produced, and are now available for sale across Canada.

Moving seniors cheaper than elevators: HRM

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PLEA Cost and time deadlines will prevent elevators from being built in public housing for seniors.

Yesterday at a community services committee meeting several MLAs made a plea for more elevators for the province's 8,500 seniors who live in public housing. The province and federal government are currently investing \$128 million in

public housing and many seniors live in multi-storey buildings.

"For these people it's probably one of the most important things that they can have," said Cape Breton West MLA Alfie MacLeod.

"Once they feel like they're trapped in their second-floor apartment they stop going out to social

events, and then they start having more health needs."

But only three elevators are being built — one each in Margaree, Shelburne and Great Village. Staff said elevators are often expensive and can take more than two years to build, disqualifying them from federal infrastructure money.

"Elevators have become very expensive, and we really ran the risk of not being able to do them within the time-frame that we had the money," said deputy Community Services minister Judith Ferguson.

Ferguson said the department decided it would get better dollar value by trying to relocate affected seniors in ground-floor units.

Argyle MLA Chris d'Entremont had previously fought for and won an elevator in his riding. He recalls the experience as "painful."

"Once they feel like they're trapped in their second-floor apartment, they stop going out."

Alfie MacLeod, MLA

Vancouver unseats Halifax in urban sustainability

ENVIRONMENT When it comes to urban sustainability, Toronto has overpowered Edmonton in the big-city category and Vancouver has pulled an upset on two-time medium-city winner Halifax.

The rankings by Corporate Knights magazine put Yellowknife, N.W.T., in first place for the third year straight in the small-city category because of its extensive trail network that allows almost a quarter of

residents to walk to work.

The report said Vancouver edged out two-time medium-city winner Halifax with its stricter GHG reduction goals, more bike paths and green space and better access to local food.

The magazine assessed cities using five categories: Ecological integrity, economic security, governance and empowerment, infrastructure and built environment and social well-being.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

HOUSING A Nova Scotia government rebate program offering up to \$7,000 on the purchase of a newly built home has reached its limit. The program, which has approved 1,500 families for the rebate, was a key promise by the NDP during their election campaign. Service Nova Scotia Minister Ramona Jennex says applications will be accepted until March 31 and those who

qualify will be on a waiting list. **RALLY** A group trying to save the CAT high-speed ferry service between Nova Scotia and Maine plans to rally in Halifax tomorrow morning. Members include tourism stakeholders, business owners and employees. They will gather outside the office of the premier on Granville Street. They want the opportunity to speak with government officials and a pledge

that efforts will be made to secure a ferry link with New England in 2011 and beyond.

MISSING Halifax Regional Police are asking for the public's assistance in locating a missing 21-year-old woman. Police say Monika Elizabeth Selig hasn't been heard from since Jan. 27. She is described as five-foot-10, 110 pounds with light brown hair and noticeable acne on her face. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Sigh Six more weeks



Shubenacadie Sam catches a glimpse of his shadow, heralding six more weeks of winter, at a wildlife park in Shubenacadie yesterday, on what was Groundhog Day.



Halifax Regional Police is pleased to join all Nova Scotians in celebrating African Heritage Month. Together, we will continue to make progress.

To learn all about the work we do in our community, become a fan of Halifax Regional Police on Facebook.



Cops: Give us leads, not Facebook

Police in Belleville, Ont., are asking people with information regarding the disappearance of a 27-year-old woman to call them instead of posting it to Facebook. More than 34,000 friends, family and strangers have joined a Facebook group dedicated to finding Jessica Lloyd since her disappearance late last Thursday. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

5

Canada



Mom gets 30 months in baby death

A 20-year-old New Brunswick woman has been sentenced to 30 months in prison for criminal negligence causing death in the slaying of her newborn boy. Sarah Russell — who was originally charged with manslaughter, accessory after the fact and disposing of the body of a newborn but pleaded guilty to the new charge in November — wept quietly after she was sentenced.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Troops stretched thin

Unit sent to Haiti might have to leave by late March

Haiti Crisis

The Conservative government, which has enjoyed positive reviews for its handling of the Haiti disaster, needs to make tough decisions soon about whether to keep troops in the earthquake-ravaged country, say defence experts.

About 1,000 soldiers from Canadian Forces Base Valcartier, Que., that were sent to Haiti are on a tight schedule.

The same unit, the 3rd Battalion of the Royal 22nd Regiment, goes to Afghanistan in December and is slotted for combat training in Fort Irwin, Calif., this April.

That means the so-called Van Doos will have to be out of Haiti by mid-to-late March, just when defence analysts say security in the disaster zone may need to

Not enough to go around

Canada's already stretched military was able to pull together an almost 2,000-member relief contingent for

Haiti, despite the Afghan combat mission and the commitment to the Vancouver Olympics.

be increased.

"I just don't know how you maintain it, but by the same token I don't know how you pull out given that it's such a continuing human crisis," said Robert Huebert of the University of Calgary.

The United Nations this week set up permanent distribution sites for aid and food, in an attempt to head off potential violence. Noting that Haiti remains "stable but potentially volatile," the world body also reported an armed group attacked a food convoy at an airport in the southwest.

Experts have said gang violence and social unrest is likely to increase in the

coming months.

Huebert says the "Forces are getting no down time, no rest time" and the government needs to make up its mind how the future mission will unfold.

The military also has its disaster-response team, two warships and regular air force relief flights going to the island nation.

A spokesman for Defence Minister Peter MacKay lauded the work the military has done in Haiti, but acknowledged no decision has been made on whether the humanitarian deployment will be extended.

"We are looking at it day by day and assessing as the situation evolves," said Dan

Dugas.

An army spokesperson declined comment yesterday, saying only they are reviewing the matter.

"We are stretched like a bungee cord as far as human resources go," said retired general Lew MacKenzie.

Several defence sources said one solution is to bring in more reservists, making the part-time soldiers the largest element of the security force.

MacKenzie said reserve soldiers would be well suited for crowd control and relief operation duties.

But he said recent belt-tightening within the military has been felt keenly among the part-time force. Courses have been cancelled and some contracts of soldiers have been terminated as the Defence Department scrambles to reallocate funds for high-priority missions.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ontario Willie sees his shadow



South Bruce Peninsula Mayor Gwenn Gilbert puts her head to Wiarton Willie in Wiarton, Ont., yesterday. Better keep the snow shovel, toque and hot chocolate handy — Canada's most famous furry forecaster emerged from his slumber and saw his shadow on Groundhog Day, which means that six more weeks of winter are still ahead of us.

Williams spurs U.S. health debate

SURGERY The decision by Newfoundland and Labrador Premier Danny Williams to go stateside for heart surgery has provided ammunition for opponents of health care reform in the United States.

The blogosphere was abuzz about the move yesterday as anti-reformists trumpeted apparent weaknesses in Canada's health-care system, a model some proponents of reform have suggested the U.S. should emulate.

Some pointed to it as proof of weaknesses in Canada's universal health-care system and vindication for those who oppose U.S. President Barack Obama's plans to overhaul the system south of the border.

A posting on right-wing website redstate.com entitled, "But I thought Canada's health-care system was so much better," drew nearly 20 responses taking aim at the Canadian system.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ottawa Winterlude ice sculpture



Ottawa ice carver Suguru Kanbayashi works on Ogoopogo, a 100-block ice sculpture to be featured at Winterlude, which kicks off this weekend in Ottawa. About 350,000 people are expected to take in the sculptures over the next three weeks.

Iqaluit meeting raises eyebrows

FINANCE A federal official says Canada's decision to hold the meeting of G7 finance ministers and central bankers in Iqaluit later this week is not intended to prove a point about the cultural and economic importance of seals in the North.

The unusual location for the meeting, especially in the middle of winter, has

raised some eyebrows abroad and resulted in shortages in both accommodation and flight availability.

But a senior finance official, speaking on background in advance of the meetings on Friday and Saturday, insisted that Canada is not trying to gain support for the seal hunt.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ignatieff urges Harper to include abortion in women's-health plan

WOMEN Michael Ignatieff is urging Prime Minister Stephen Harper not to exclude abortion and contraception from his plan to become an international champion of women's and children's health.

The Liberal leader sought assurances yesterday that Harper's agenda to improve the lot of women and children in the world's poorest countries will include funding for all reproductive health services.

"Women are entitled to the full gamut of reproductive health services and that includes termination of pregnancy and contraception," Ignatieff told a Liberal-sponsored

"Women are entitled to the full gamut of reproductive health services and that includes termination of pregnancy and contraception." Liberal Leader Michael Ignatieff

roundtable discussion on foreign aid and international development.

Harper is hosting the G8 summit in June and he's vowed to use the opportunity to launch a major initiative to improve the health of women and children.

Ignatieff urged the Harper government not to follow the lead of the United States, which in the past has cut funding to some aid organizations

that promote the use of contraceptives and abortion.

The Liberals subsequently issued a news release expressing fear that Harper is already going down the American path. It cited a petition filed in the House of Commons by Conservative MP Brad Trost urging the government to cut funding to the International Planned Parenthood Federation.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

NGOS Dozens of non-governmental organizations that work in the field of human rights have written an open letter denouncing actions by the Conservative-appointed board at Rights and Democracy.

CRASH The general manager of Cougar Helicopters says last year's crash of an offshore chopper in the North Atlantic that killed 17 people has changed the helicopter company forever.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Australian police yesterday said an Indian man who claimed he was attacked and set on fire made the story up after accidentally lighting himself on fire while torching his car in an insurance fraud scheme. The incident occurred amid growing tension between India and Australia over a highly publicized spate of violence against Indian students in Melbourne. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

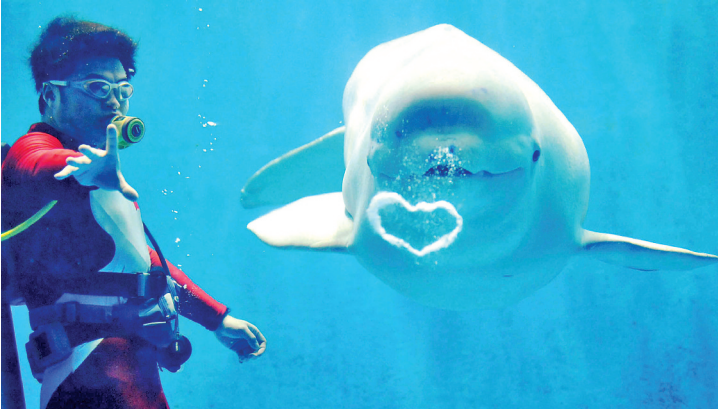
World



Jackson's doctor to be charged

Los Angeles prosecutors plan to charge Michael Jackson's doctor with manslaughter rather than take the case to a grand jury, a law enforcement official said yesterday. Prosecutors will file a criminal complaint against Dr. Conrad Murray, left, who practices in Houston, instead of taking the case before a grand jury, which is done in private. Jackson died June 25 from an anesthetic overdose. Murray maintains nothing he gave Jackson should have killed him. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

China Love bubbles



In this photo released by China's Xinhua News Agency, a white whale blows heart-shaped bubbles at the Harbin Polarland in China's northeast Heilongjiang Province yesterday.

Al-Qaida 'likely' to attempt U.S. attack

TERRORISM Al-Qaida can be expected to attempt an attack on the United States in the next three to six months, senior U.S. intelligence officials told Congress yesterday.

The terrorist organization is deploying operatives to the U.S. to carry out new attacks from inside the country, including "clean" recruits with a negligible trail of terror contacts, CIA director Leon Panetta said. Panetta also warned of the danger of extremists acting alone.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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What presidential cuisine is on the menu when the Obamas invite celebrity chefs to the White House? Scan this code for the story.

Journal retracts study that linked vaccines to autism

MEDICINE A top British medical journal has retracted a discredited study that linked the measles, mumps and rubella vaccine to autism and fuelled anti-vaccination sentiments in Europe and North America.

The Lancet, which published the controversial paper by Andrew Wakefield and colleagues in 1998, said yesterday it had become clear following a review of Wakefield's conduct by Britain's General Medical Council that several elements of the study were false.

Last week the council ruled that Wakefield had shown a "callous disregard" for the children used in his study and acted unethically. The Lancet's move, viewed as long overdue by many infectious dis-

Repudiated

Subsequent studies found no proof the vaccine is connected to autism. And 10 of the 13 authors later repudiated the work in a statement published by the Lancet.

ease experts, was welcomed as a way of clearing discredited data from the scientific record.

"It was out there for a very long time. So it's good the Lancet has retracted it. It helps in a small way. But the truth of the matter is the damage has been done," Dr. Allison McGeer, an infectious diseases expert at Toronto's Mount Sinai Hospital, said in an interview.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Police repel food convoy hijacking

Haiti Crisis

Twenty armed men blocked a road and tried to hijack a convoy of food for earthquake victims, but were driven off by police gunfire, UN officials said yesterday as they warned of security problems in the still-desperate nation.

The attack on the convoy as it carried supplies from an airport in the southern town of Jeremie underscored the shaky safety in the streets that has added to Haitians' frustration at the slow pace of aid since the Jan. 12 earthquake.

Most quake victims are still living outside in squalid tents of sheets and sticks and aid officials acknowledge they have not

U.S. church group questioned by judge

A Haitian judge yesterday was questioning a group of U.S. Baptist missionaries arrested trying to leave Haiti with a busload of children they gathered from the disaster zone. The investigating magis-

trate queried the five women for several hours and will follow up with the five men on Wednesday, according to the Haiti's communications minister. The Americans have yet to be charged.

yet gotten food to the majority of those in need.

Mobs have stolen food and looted goods from their neighbours in the camps, prompting many to band together or stay awake at night to prevent raids.

About 20 armed men blockaded a street Saturday and attacked a convoy carrying food from the airport in Jeremie, according to UN spokesman Vicenzo Pugliese. UN and Haitian officers fired warning gun-

shots and the men fled the scene, Pugliese said.

No injuries were reported and no one was hurt.

"The overall security situation across the country remains stable, but potentially volatile," the UN mission said in a statement yesterday.

In Jacmel, also a southern city, 33 escaped prisoners were apprehended Sunday, the UN said. Many prisoners escaped when prisons collapsed.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

News in brief

SPACE The head of the umbrella organization for aerospace companies in Canada calls the Obama administration's budget a great opportunity for the space business in this country. Claude Lajeunesse, CEO of the Aerospace Industries Association of Canada, says the budget focuses on areas like robotics development where Canada is strong. Lajeunesse called on the Harper government to adopt a clear long-term space plan. The Canadian Space Agency has been working on a plan for more than a year.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

ISRAEL Palestinian militants said yesterday they had launched a large number of floating explosives toward the Israeli coast to avenge the death of a top Hamas commander, a day after two bomb-laden barrels washed up on Israel's coastline. Israeli authorities launched an intensive search for new bombs, closing miles of beaches, deploying robotic bomb squads and ordering surfers out of the water. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu blamed Hamas and hinted at retaliation.

WISCONSIN A woman who tied up a cheating lover and glued his penis to his stomach said yesterday that she didn't mean to hurt him and only overreacted because he was trying to contact her 12-year-old daughter. Therese A. Zieman, 48, said she and three other women only meant to confront the married man about his cheating ways. "I had just found my daughter's number in his cellphone," she said outside court. "It was just a warning from me to him, to stay away from the kids."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

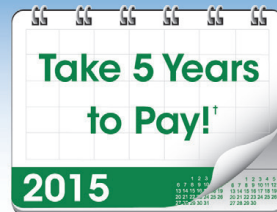
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Recession halts HQ plans

Fort Reliance, the parent company for New Brunswick-based Irving Oil, says it will not move ahead with its planned world headquarters project because of the recession. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

7

Business

EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

No second-round stimulus: Flaherty

Feds believe 2010 GDP \$56 billion less than predicted

Canada won't get a second round of stimulus spending even though the economy has yet to fully recover, Finance Minister Jim Flaherty said yesterday.

The finance minister met with 15 economists yesterday morning and revised the country's projection for growth slightly upwards this year and slightly downwards longer term.

But the major difference in the new projections comes in comparing where the economy is today to where the government expected it last January, when it passed a record \$46-billion stimulus package.

Ottawa now believes the country's 2010 nominal gross domestic product — the size of the economy — will be \$56 billion below the level it expected last

Taking a guess

• In the government's most recent calculation, the deficit is projected to slide from the current \$56 billion to \$5 billion in fiscal year 2014-15. However, Parliamentary budget watchdog Kevin Page disputes Ottawa's numbers, predicting the aging population will limit economic expansion.

January, which directly affects tax revenues. And the gap expands in outgoing years.

As well, it now expects the unemployment rate to average 8.5 per cent this year — less than the view in September — but a full point higher than the January 2009 budget estimate.

After meeting with the economists yesterday, the

minister said the recovery is still fragile and uncertainty remains. But, he stressed, he won't change his plans to keep the stimulus flowing for one more year and then turn off the tap.

"We don't intend to do more stimulus other than what we committed to," he said.

"This country looks so great, compared to most of the other western industrialized countries."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

m.metronews.ca



While positive U.S. housing numbers buoyed stock markets, there's still plenty for investors to be wary of. Scan this code for the story.

Hong Kong Forgery case



The brother and sisters of Asia's richest businesswoman, the late Nina Wang, from left, Kung Yan-fum, Kung Yan-sum and Molly Cong, speak after winning a huge court case in Hong Kong yesterday. A bartender-turned-fortune teller who had an affair with the pigtailed Hong Kong tycoon lost his bid for her multibillion-dollar estate when a court deemed his will a forgery.

Business in brief

ENERGY Suncor Energy Inc., Canada's biggest energy company, posted a \$457-million profit in the final quarter of 2009, reversing a big loss in the prior-year period but remaining well below analyst

expectations. The oil and gas producer, refiner and fuel retailer said it earned 29 cents per share in the last three months of the year.

DEBT Globalvise says it intends to enter into a private debt fi-

nancing arrangement for its Wind Mobile wireless company with investment banks. The company says financing won't change ownership and control structure of Wind.

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Comment

Politicians sinking to new lows

TheWestView

Paul
Sullivan

metronews.ca/thewestview

How low can they go? Politicians, that is. Already among the least trusted professionals — a recent Reader's Digest poll ranked them 39 out of 41, barely above car salespeople and telemar-

eters — recent shenanigans should earn them coveted last place in next year's poll.

Even in an era of new lows represented by poster boy Rod Blagojevich, the former governor of Illinois, it has not been a great season for politicians.

The man elected to Ted Kennedy's U.S. senate seat is most famous for posing nude in Cosmo.

A New Brunswick MLA has gone viral on YouTube, caught rapping in the House to an American Idol contestant's "original

song." "Pants on the ground, pants on the ground, you're lookin' like a fool with your pants on the ground." Funny, sure, but it hardly elevates the level of legislative debate.

Someone tossed a politically correct pie in the face of Fisheries Minister Gail Shea for her stand on that annual outrage, the cute baby seal hunt, which is scheduled to start again shortly. Politically correct as no animal byproducts were harmed in the baking of the tofu cream pie. Poor Ms. Shea; it didn't even

taste good.

And on Parliament Hill, home of that daily jackal fest known as question period, the prime minister arbitrarily prorogued the 40th Canadian Parliament until March 3. Just say no to democracy.

Of course, the way things are going, most of us see that as an improvement.

It's worse in England, where politicians scored an all-time low for public trust in a recent Ipsos Mori poll, making them the least-trusted professionals

in the nation, even lower than journalists, that other reviled sect.

It might have something to do with one MP claiming porn movies as a parliamentary expense or another hiring his teenage son, a full-time student, as a "parliamentary assistant" for more than £11,000 (\$18,650). One even claimed £16.50 (\$27.99) for a wreath allegedly draped on a war memorial.

As amusing as these hijinks may seem, there are serious consequences. Faced with this Confedera-

tion of Dunces, career aspirants are flocking to alternatives such as auto sales and telemarketing, or God forbid, journalism. Who's left to guide democracy? The kids of South Park?

And who will bother to vote for these jokers? Voter turnout in the last federal election was already at an all-time low.

It makes you long for the good old days of ... Brian Mulroney?

Paul Sullivan is a Vancouver-based journalist and owner of Sullivan Media Consulting; vancouverletters@metronews.ca.

Word on the street: Should Canadian NHLers competing in the 2010 Winter Games in Vancouver receive money if they win a medal, like amateur athletes do?

Kelly
Cousins
Halifax

A: No, I just don't think they need it. The money could go to amateurs who really need it to help build their career, help develop their skills more than people who already have all this money.

Andrew
Keilty
Halifax

A: These guys put a lot of time into being elite athletes, so if they have the opportunity and they've made the Olympic team ... then yeah, they should get the same as amateur athletes.

Tanya
Doucette
Dartmouth

A: The gold medal should be good enough and maybe (the money) should be donated to the homeless or shelters who actually need the money — to a charity.

Peter
Litherland
Vancouver

A: They are entitled to it, and they should get it, but it's up to the athlete to be a good corporate citizen and do something useful with it.

Liz
Do
Toronto

A: No. They already get paid so much to begin with, and since they already have a lot of money and a lot of followers, they should have enough incentive to win a medal already.

Paul
McAteer
Calgary

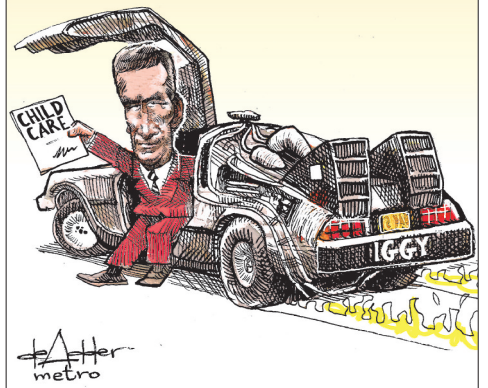
A: Yes, because there are also players who are not in the NHL playing Olympic hockey and they should be treated the same as other professional athletes.



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Pender slapped with suspension from ECHL

Former Halifax Mooseheads defenceman Justin Pender has received a one-game suspension from the ECHL after receiving an aggressor game misconduct on Jan. 30. The Trenton Devils blue-liner has 13 points in 33 games. **METRO HALIFAX**

9

Sports



Kirkpatrick racking up the points

Former Dartmouth Subways star Michael Kirkpatrick has climbed to seventh in QMJHL scoring with 21 goals and 44 assists for 65 points in 50 games. Kirkpatrick has hit a career-high in points with the nationally-No. 1-ranked Saint John Sea Dogs.

METRO HALIFAX

EDITOR: DON.MCHOULL@METRONEWS.CA

'It's been a long time'

Dalhousie inching closer to ending playoff drought

MATTHEW WUEST
matthew.wuest@metronews.ca

The playoffs are within reach for the Dalhousie Tigers men's hockey team — and that's saying something.

The Tigers, who lost 113 of 140 games and had four-straight last-place finishes coming into this season, are inching closer to ending a five-season non-playoff drought as second-year head coach Pete Belliveau rebuilds the program.

Heading into the final two weeks of the Atlantic University Sport season, the Tigers have the final playoff spot with an 8-12-3 record and are playing their best hockey in ages.

"Holy God, it's been a long time," said Belliveau, the architect of a national championship team with the Moncton Aces in 1995. "It's been six years. The veterans here haven't seen a playoff game since they suited up for Dal."

For the first time in a long time, there's some excitement — and something to cheer about — at Memorial Arena. The Tigers just keep getting better, having won four of

their last six and posting a 6-4-2 record in their past 12 games.

The mid-season arrival of sniper Benjamin Breault — a four-time QMJHL 30-goal scorer — has revived a struggling offence. After just 10 games, he's already tied for the team lead in goal-scoring with seven. He has 10 points in total.

"We haven't won anything yet. We're OK, but we still have a lot of work ahead."

Pete Belliveau,
Tigers head coach

"Breault is going to be our go-to guy," Belliveau said. "He's here for that and he's been delivering. He's a natural sniper ... He's so good two ways and he's good on draws ... But boy can he score and his goals are key goals, too."

The road to a playoff spot won't be easy.

With five games remaining, Moncton is just two points behind and the St. Thomas Tommies are three points behind. Dal has to play the unbeaten New Brunswick Varsity Reds twice.

"We haven't won anything yet," Belliveau cautioned. "There are still 10 points up for grabs. We're OK, but we still have a lot of work ahead. If we can make the playoffs after six years of being shut out ... We'd be pretty excited."



Benjamin Breault has seven goals among 10 points in nine games since joining the Dalhousie Tigers at mid-season.

Standings

Atlantic University Sport men's hockey

	W	L	O/S	P
y-New Brunswick	23	0	0	46
x-Acadia	15	6	2	32
x-Saint Mary's	12	8	4	28
St. F.X.	10	10	4	24
P.E.I.	10	11	2	22
Dalhousie	8	12	3	19
Moncton	8	14	1	17
St. Thomas	7	14	2	16

• Note: (y-top two teams clinch first-round playoff bye; x-top six teams clinch playoff spots)

Lemieux could return to lineup this weekend

MATTHEW WUEST
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MOOSEHEADS Help could be on the way for the Halifax Mooseheads.

Rookie right-winger Alex Lemieux, out since Dec. 27 with mononucleosis, is practising again and could be reinserted into the lineup as early as this weekend.

The last-place Mooseheads, who have lost five of their past six games, host the Saint John Sea Dogs on Friday and the Cape Breton Screaming Eagles on Saturday.

Lemieux is second



Alex Lemieux

among rookies in scoring with six goals and seven assists for 13 points in 37 games and was emerging as a solid contributor on a line with fellow freshmen Carl Gelinas and Brent Andrews before getting

mono.

Mooseheads head coach and general manager Cam Russell said yesterday he is also hoping blue-liner Steve Gillard and right-winger Bradley MacDonald will be available on the weekend. They are day-to-day with shoulder injuries.

Russell is in Saskatchewan scouting the Notre Dame Hounds midget AAA team. The Mooseheads are a good bet to pick No. 1 overall in June's QMJHL draft, and Hounds forwards Andrew Ryan and Liam O'Brien are ranked as top-10 prospects by International Scouting Service.

"It's important," said Russell, of the scouting trip that caused him to miss the past two Mooseheads games. "There are four players on the team we have listed in the top five rounds and three are potential top two or three round picks."

Russell returns to practice with the Mooseheads on Thursday and will be behind the bench on the weekend.

For more Mooseheads coverage, visit Matthew Wuest's Q Files blog at www.metronews.ca/qfiles or follow @metrogfiles on Twitter.

V-Reds in pursuit of perfection

AUS The New Brunswick Varsity Reds are on the verge of a historic Atlantic University Sport men's hockey season.

The defending national champion V-Reds are a perfect 23-for-23 so far this season and are right on target to improve on their AUS record 26-1-1 mark from 2007-08.

"They're without a doubt the best team in Canada,"

said Dalhousie Tigers head coach Pete Belliveau. "It's theirs to lose. But what happens? You've got to play the games."

The V-Reds could become the fifth team in CIS since 1962-63 to finish with a perfect record. The Western Ontario Mustangs most recently went 24-0 in 2002-03.

MATTHEW WUEST/
METRO HALIFAX

Sports in brief

HONOURS Jocelyn LeBlanc of the Dalhousie Tigers women's hockey team has been named Atlantic University Sport's female athlete of the week. The third-year forward had a five-goal, seven-point game against Mount Allison on Sunday.

CIS The Dalhousie Tigers held down the No. 10 spot in Cana-

dian Interuniversity Sport's latest men's basketball rankings, released yesterday. The defending Atlantic conference champions won a pair of games last weekend to improve to 9-5. The Carleton Ravens (16-1) have the No. 1 spot, while the unbeaten St. Francis Xavier X-Men (13-0) are third.

METRO HALIFAX

SCOREBOARD

PBL	W	L	PCT	GB
Puerto Rico	7	0	1.000	—
HAIFAX	6	2	.750	1.5
Rochester	5	1	.833	1.5
Lawton-Fort Sill	4	2	.667	2.5
Manchester	2	5	.285	5
Maryland	2	5	.285	5
Buffalo	2	5	.285	5
Quebec	1	5	.167	5.5
Vermont	0	4	.000	5.5

SUNDAY	W	L	PCT	GB
Buffalo at HALIFAX, 2 p.m.				

QMJHL	W	L	S/O	P
BEFORE LAST NIGHT'S GAMES				
Saint John	42	8	1	85
Moncton	35	11	4	74

FRIDAY	W	L	PCT	GB
Saint John at HALIFAX, 7 p.m.				
SATURDAY				
Cape Breton at HALIFAX, 7 p.m.				

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Indianapolis Colts owner Jim Irsay hopes to sign Peyton Manning to a contract extension when the season ends, a move that could make the four-time MVP the highest-paid quarterback in NFL history. Manning's contract is set to expire after the 2010 season, but Irsay doesn't want to wait. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Giguere gets shutout in debut

NHL RESULTS

Devils 0 Leafs 3



By the end of the first period of his first game, Dion Phaneuf had landed a hit, a fighting major and an ovation.

Had he managed anything more, fans of the Toronto Maple Leafs might well have elected him mayor, had they not already acclaimed his general manager for acquiring the big defenceman in a weekend trade.

Brian Burke's team had a good night yesterday, as Phaneuf and his new teammates rolled over the New Jersey Devils 3-0 to snap a six-game winless streak. The Leafs beat their Eastern Conference rivals thanks in large part to the energy provided by Phaneuf, new forward Fredrik Sjoström and goaltender Jean-Sebastien Giguere.

Giguere finished with 30 saves, becoming only the

second goaltender in team history to record a shutout in his debut. Ed Belfour was the first, beating the Pittsburgh Penguins 6-0 on Oct. 10, 2002.

Burke acquired Phaneuf and Sjoström from the Calgary Flames Sunday, sending longtime Maple Leaf Matt Stajan to Alberta with forwards Niklas Hagman and Jamal Mayers and defenceman Ian White. Burke then landed Giguere from the Anaheim Ducks in exchange for underperforming winger Jason Blake and underwhelming goaltender Vesa Toskala.

"Obviously, it's really tough to see some of your good friends and teammates go," Maple Leafs forward Lee Stempniak said before the game. "I guess



Toronto Maple Leafs defenceman Dion Phaneuf scraps with New Jersey Devils defenceman Colin White last night at the Air Canada Centre. The Leafs won 3-0.

it's really a breath of fresh air. The new guys who came in, they're excited to be here."

More changes could be expected, with Burke having proclaimed the team

was still open for business. There are a handful of moves that could be made, with speculation swirling around veteran forward Alexei Ponikarovsky, to name one.

"I'm not worried, it's just the business," Ponikarovsky said. "If you get traded, that's the way it is. I just want to play hockey and have fun."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

McCarville alone on top

CURLING Ontario's Krista McCarville improved to 6-1 and took sole possession of first place after Draw 11 at the Scotties

Tournament of Hearts with a 9-3 victory over P.E.I.'s Kathy O'Rourke last night.

O'Rourke sits in a second-place tie with Canada's Jennifer Jones at 5-2.

Earlier, Jones rebounded from a tough Monday to post back-to-back victories.

Jones beat Alberta's Valerie Sweeting 9-7 before upending B.C.'s Kelly Scott 10-7.

Jones, the defending champion, lost twice Monday after starting the tournament with a 3-0 record.

In other late action, Quebec defeated Northwest Territories/Yukon 6-5, New Brunswick topped Saskatchewan 8-7 and Nova Scotia outlasted Newfoundland 7-6.

B.C., Quebec and Manitoba sit at 4-3 after Draw 11, followed by New Brunswick, Saskatchewan and Alberta, which all stand at 3-4.

Newfoundland and Northwest Territories/Yukon are 2-5, with Nova Scotia at 1-6.

In Draw 9 action earlier in the day, New Brunswick's Andrea Kelly scored two in the tenth end to beat Northwest Territories/Yukon's Sharon Cormier 9-7.

P.E.I. defeated Nova Scotia's Nancy McConery 7-4.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Habs end Canucks' win streak at seven

NHL RESULTS

Canucks 2 Canadiens 3



NHL Tomas Plekanec scored the game-winner in the third and Jaroslav Halak made 45 saves as the Montreal Canadiens ended the Vancouver Canucks' seven-game winning streak with a 3-2 victory last night.

Sergei Kostitsyn and Maxim Lapierre scored in the first period for Montreal (26-25-6), which ended a three-game winless run.

Mikael Samuelsson and Ryan Kesler each scored a power-play goal for the Canucks (34-19-2). Vancouver had scored only once on its previous 18 chances.

Halak stopped NHL scoring leader Henrik Sedin on two close-in chances in the opening minute, and then did it again early in the sec-

ond period as he was held off the scoresheet for the second time in his last three games.

Roberto Luongo, playing his first game since he was yanked after the first period of a 5-3 comeback win in Toronto on Saturday, could not be blamed for the two goals he surrendered on nine shots in the opening period.

A turnover by the Canucks defence gave Kostitsyn room to slip around Kesler, move into the slot and score only his second goal of the season at 5:56. It was Montreal's first even-strength goal in four games, ending a drought of 223 minutes 12 seconds.

Samuelsson's point shot on a power play handcuffed Halak and dropped into the net to tie it at 8:24, but Lapierre was in front to bang in a pass across the crease at 18:04 for a rare goal from Montreal's fourth line.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Sports in brief

NHL Following what head coach Brent Sutter termed as an "embarrassing" 3-0 loss to the Philadelphia Flyers Monday night, the Flames (27-21-8) made their second big trade in three days, sending forwards Olli Jokinen and Brandon Prust to the New York Rangers for Chris Higgins and fellow winger Ales Kotalik.

SOCCER Chelsea missed the chance to go four points clear at the top of the English Premier League with a 1-1 draw at Hull yesterday. The draw left Chelsea on 55 points, three clear of defending champion Manchester United.

CFL The Canadian Football Hall of Fame is set to welcome five new members. The class of 2010 includes Bob Cameron, Tracy Ham, Don Narcisse, Elfrid Payton and Joe Pistilli.

NHL Michael Cammalleri will be out for about six weeks with a knee injury but the good news for the Montreal Canadiens' top scorer is that he won't need surgery.

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Murray plans to compete

Canadian freestyle skier Julia Murray underwent arthroscopic surgery yesterday and says she plans to race in the ski cross event at the Winter Olympics. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Vancouver Games

EDITOR: DON.MCHOULL@METRONEWS.CA

Long track, high hopes

With nine medals predicted, speedskaters key to Canada's plans

For years long-track speedskating was ruled by Europeans and Americans, home to the kind of talent most Canadian competitors had little hope of bumping from the podium.

Occasionally, a Gaetan Boucher or Susan Auch would emerge and break through to interrupt that domination. Only such success was fleeting, and never really spread deeper than an athlete or two.

That started changing at the turn of the century, and with the blades set to hit the Richmond Olympic Oval ice at the Vancouver Games, there is a new pecking order in the speedskating world.

Led by the likes of Kristina Groves and Christine Nesbitt, Canada boasts a deep and talented long-track team that may very well claim more medals than any other at these Olympics.

The Dutch, Americans, Germans and Norwegians, among others, have not gone away by any means. But they now see the Canadians the way Canadians once saw them — as a giant obstacle to victory.

"I was really inspired by Clara (Hughes) and Cindy (Klassen) when they came into the team and pretty quickly were right up there. I was like, 'Wow, we can compete against the Dutch and the Germans, we're in there,'" said Groves, who will race in five events and has the potential to win a medal in each.

"Now, I'm so thankful to be part of this ridiculously strong team."

Team is the optimal word. Canadians won eight medals at the Turin Games but five came from Cindy Klassen's awe-inspiring performance.

This time around, Groves, Nesbitt and Denny Morrison each have the potential to win multiple medals, with a host of other contenders sprinkled in around them.

Privately, Speed Skating Canada officials feel their athletes can climb the podium nine times, and that's not counting on Klassen or Jeremy Wotherspoon, both of whom are wild cards after working their way back



Christine Nesbitt skates during the World Cup Speedskating Championships Dec. 11 in Utah.

from injuries.

That depth of talent has kept the pressure from being focused on one single skater. That has been important since team members have regularly been reminded that they must own the oval for Canada to have any chance of owning the podium at these Olympics.

The onus on them to deliver extends beyond that, too. The long-track team has received about \$8.9 million in Own The Podium funding the past five seasons, the third-highest total spent on any of Canada's winter sports teams, and it's time to justify that expenditure.

On the web
Learn more about Christine Nesbitt in an interactive profile at metronews.ca

"I think they're as ready as can be," says Catriona Le May Doan, the two-time Olympic 500 metre champion who will work as a TV analyst during the Games. "I think what's nice is that so many of them have expectations. I was told by one of the team members that this is the best they've ever felt that the team is really a team."

"That's really helping

them."

The pressure won't solely be on the Canadians under the oval's architecturally stunning curved wooden roof.

Speedskating in the Netherlands is as important there as hockey is to Canadians. The Dutch skaters, led by distance-events star Sven Kramer, will be expected to bring home a hefty medal haul.

American star Shani Davis has dominated the middle distances this season and will be expected to add a couple of gold medals to the gold and silver he won in Turin.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Massive rings disappear, sending rumours flying

MYSTERY Under the incessant grey skies of Vancouver, the international media has had at least one glimmer of light for photos in the lead-up to the Games.

And now that's been taken away, too.

A massive set of Olympic rings that lit up nightly atop a barge in the waters of downtown Vancouver mysteriously disappeared yesterday.

Vancouver Police say they know nothing about the missing rings, once located inside the Games' marine security zone and outside their jurisdiction.

One rumour was that



These giant Olympic rings vanished yesterday.

they'd been moved to act as the final cauldron for the Olympic flame during next week's opening ceremonies.

But Olympic organizers say there's no mystery or conspiracy afoot — the rings have been taken away for a power refitting and should be glowing again in the next few days. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Canada will be No. 2: Magazine

PREDICTION Sports Illustrated is picking Canada to be second-best at this month's Olympics in Vancouver.

In its Feb. 8 edition, which hits newsstands today, the sports magazine projects the Canadian team to finish with 30 medals at the Games — 10 gold, 11 silver and nine bronze.

Germany is predicted to lead the way with 35

medals, including 11 gold, 11 silver and 13 bronze.

Sports Illustrated thinks the Americans will finish third with 27 medals; seven gold, 10 silver and 10 bronze.

The Germans topped the medal count at the 2006 Olympics in Turin, Italy with 29 medals.

The Americans were second with 25, followed by the Canadians with 24.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

METRO HOCKEY POOL STANDINGS*

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NAME	LOCATION	GP	G	A	PTS
1. Brian B	AB, CA	788	334	463	797
2. Jonathon Gremesberger	BC, CA	790	334	456	790
3. Shawn Tschirter	AB, CA	787	315	464	779
4. Christian Gagnon	NB, CA	748	313	460	773
4. Kyle Turk	NS, CA	796	332	441	773
6. Cole Warren	NS, CA	776	288	478	766
7. Joanne Doiron	NB, CA	744	305	459	764
7. Stephanie Warren	NS, CA	766	320	444	764
9. Jean-Paul Osborne	QC, CA	783	306	456	762
10. Shane Gladue	AB, CA	777	280	477	757
11. Ferroz Mir	ON, CA	769	299	457	756
12. Bernie Horton	ON, CA	734	313	442	755
13. Tom Collier	NS, CA	801	346	408	754
14. Jordan Camponi	AB, CA	749	297	455	752
15. Steve Ferguson	ON, CA	779	312	439	751

* Results exclude Quebec



RRSP Guide



Don't forget

The deadline for making contributions to your Registered Retirement Savings Plan (RRSP) for the 2009 tax year is March 1, 2010. That means you only have 26 days left!

SPECIAL FEATURES EDITOR: STEPHANIE.BOMBA@METRONEWS.CA

Go back to basics

Advisers advocating using tried and tested strategies

RAFAEL BRUSILOV
for Metro Canada



The tough economy drew many Canadians away from their RRSP strategies, but now is the time to come back, experts say.

Aaron Margolis, a vice-president at Investors Group, says last year's market scramble has mostly stabilized and the time is ripe for smart, careful investing.

"Certainly the market conditions this year are

"There's a sense that people need to get back into the market, but in a prudent way."

Aaron Margolis, Investors Group

very different. Last year there was so much fear and panic, this year there's much more calmness. There's a sense that people need to get back into the market, but in a prudent way," Margolis said.

Rather than looking for quick fixes, get back to tried and tested strategies like RRSPs and income-generating investments.

"It's about getting back to the basics. Advisers are saying what has worked in the past should put you in good standing in the future — it might be a little

more boring but it works. It's almost like the old adage: What's old is new," Margolis said.

While the Tax-Free Savings Account introduced last year has proven popular, Margolis says you should prioritize your RRSP contribution first because of the tax savings it can provide.

"The TFSA is a terrific vehicle for creating emergency savings, but try as much as possible to max out your RRSP first to benefit from tax efficiencies inherent in it, then consider maximizing your TFSA contribution," Margolis said.

Look for investments that grant an income and try as best as possible to invest with your risk tolerance in mind, he suggests.

Lee Anne Davies, head of retirement strategies at RBC, says an RRSP should be a long-term priority for any Canadian, yet in a recent RBC RRSP poll, only 35 per cent of Canadians with RRSPs said they



The market is ripe for smart, careful investing, experts say.

plan to contribute to their RRSP for the 2009 tax year, with 54 per cent citing the tough economy as the reason. Perhaps more surprising, the poll also found that 32 per cent of Canadians have not started saving for their retirement, an unfortunate scenario in the making, Davies says.

"We're all going to retire eventually, and you want to make sure you have that nest egg waiting for you,"

Davies said.

For people feeling like they can't spare enough to save for retirement, Davies says putting away even a relatively small amount, like \$25 or \$30 each month, can make a big difference in the long run.

"Stay committed to your retirement and it will happen one day. If you just keep saving a bit at a time, it really does add up," Davies said.

What's your risk tolerance? Take our quiz at metronews.ca

Next week's lineup

HOW TO SAVE For advice from the experts on strategies for saving, pick up Metro's next RRSP Guide on Feb. 10.

Not sure you're investing in the right places?



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Financial Advisor

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Contribute what you can: Expert

ROBYN YOUNG
for Metro Canada



It's RRSP season again and time to think about how to maximize your contributions. So what's the best way to go about it?

Kevin Cork, a certified financial planner based in Calgary, says the reality is that not everyone is able to max out their contributions every year, so the next best option is to contribute as much as you can.

"The number one reason to do the RRSP is the concept of building for retirement," he said. "The way our social system is set up

in Canada — and it's one of the best in the world — it doesn't provide anything even close to a reasonable retirement income for people."

Whatever amount you contribute, make sure your money is invested wisely, he said.

"There are lots of stories about people who have plopped their money in an RRSP every year and then come retirement, they've found they've been putting their money into a daily interest account for the last 40 years and have almost no money to do anything with," he said.

If you know nothing

about finances, go for the "plain, vanilla, dull, balanced mutual fund," he said. As you become more comfortable with investing, develop an investment portfolio so your money has a chance to grow, he said.

When considering how much to contribute, Alim Dhanji, a certified financial planner with Assante Financial Management Ltd. in Vancouver, says it should be based on life goals.

"For beginners, they should seek guidance before making their contribution from a qualified professional such as a CFP (certified financial planner)," he said.

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* The \$10,000 RSP Giveaway (the "Contest") commences at 12:00 a.m. (ET) on January 18, 2010 and ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on February 28, 2010. No purchase is necessary. The Contest is open to all legal residents of Canada who have reached the age of majority in their province of residence at the time of entry, except employees of The Bank of Nova Scotia and Carlson Marketing (and persons domiciled with them and immediate relatives). There will be 12 prizes awarded, each consisting of a Registered Retirement Savings Plan (RSP) contribution of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00 CAD) to each winner's Scotia RSP. The chances of winning depend on the total number of eligible entries received during the Contest period. Answering of a skill testing question is required to be officially declared a winner. For full contest details go to scotiabank.com/rspgiveaway. ® You're richer than you think, Scotiabank Group, Scotiabank, ScotiaMcLeod, and Scotia Private Client Group are trademarks of The Bank of Nova Scotia, used with permission. Scotia Private Client Group consists of private client services from The Bank of Nova Scotia, The Bank of Nova Scotia Trust Company, Scotia Asset Management L.P., Scotia Asset Management U.S. Inc., ScotiaMcLeod Financial Services Inc., and ScotiaMcLeod, a division of Scotia Capital Inc., all members of the Scotiabank Group. Scotia Capital Inc. is a member of CIFF.

Diverse portfolio can protect against ups and downs

JON TATTRIE
for Metro Canada



There are different options for handling your RRSP investments and experts advise a diverse

portfolio to protect against the shocks of the marketplace.

"You don't want to keep all of your eggs in one basket," says Allison Marshall, financial advisory consultant with the Royal

Bank of Canada. "You want to divide your assets in your RRSP between the different types of investments and also look at some foreign content."

Marshall points to three main options: Cash,

bonds and equity. You don't want to have a lot of cash in your RRSP as it defeats the purpose of wanting to earn a rate of return. Treasury bills or money market investments and Canada or

provincial savings bonds are "some examples of more liquid investments," she says.

Bonds may also include GICs (Guaranteed Investment Certificates). "You can have any bonds that are issued by companies that are listed on a public exchange in Canada or ... debt that was issued by a company that's on what Canada calls a designated stock exchange," she explains.

That includes U.S., U.K. and Japanese exchanges. A full list can be found at fin.gc.ca.

For equities, you can have any of those common shares and preferred shares on those designated exchanges.

While many people just trust the issuer of the

RRSPs to handle the account, a more hands-on investor may want a self-directed RRSP for a wider investment range. Information on those can be found at cra-arc.gc.ca.

In Calgary, Sun Life Financial's Lance Shilliday breaks it down to GICs, mutual funds and segregated funds.

GICs are interest-rate bearing, meaning you can lock in a guaranteed interest rate for one to five years. Mutual funds range from money market to equity funds and segregated funds "are basically the same type of funds as a mutual fund, but they have guarantees associated with them, like a death-benefit and maturity-benefit guarantee," he says.



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What does it mean?

- **LIRA:** Because pensions from former employers can't be converted into cash, an option is a Locked-in Retirement Account.
- **RRIF:** Your RRSP must be collapsed by the end of the year in which you turn 71, but

you can keep most of the advantages by converting to a Registered Retirement Income Fund.

- **LIF:** Like an RRIF, a Life Income Fund originates from a pension plan, locked-in RRSP or LIRA.

Don't rush, expert says

Canadians have until March 1 to make their 2009 contributions to their registered retirement savings plans, and it looks like fewer will be taking advantage of the plan this year.

A survey done by Royal Bank late in 2009 indicated that just 35 per cent of Canadians have contributed to or plan to contribute to an RRSP for the 2009 tax year — the lowest percentage of contributors since 1996.

Canada was still recovering from a recession at that time, just like now, and economists note that that could be one reason for the difference in intentions this year.

Higher household debt levels could also be making many nervous about contributing.

For those Canadians who are contributing, many will likely wait until close to the deadline and that can be problematic, because the last thing you want to do is put more of your hard-earned money into any sort of investment in a hurry.

If you must make your contribution close to the last minute, leave the money in cash for a few weeks before making a final decision.

"Just a holding pattern for three months — what-

ever it takes to look at your game plan and say, where am I going," said Adrian Mastracci, portfolio manager at KCM Wealth Management in Vancouver.

"If it takes you 90 days to figure that out, it's not going to be until the end of the world. Because what you're going to miss in 90 days is really peanuts."

By cash, that means the money can be put into a regular savings account that is registered, or into a Guaranteed Investment Certificate or a money market fund.

A big reason why an investor wants to think twice about where to put money this year is that the Toronto stock market's performance is expected to be very different from last year. During 2009, the main Toronto index ran up 31 per cent.

But a repeat of that showing is highly unlikely, with many analysts predicting a gain this year, though it will be much more of a grind.

Another good reason for not just plopping your money in any mutual fund at the end of February is that many financial advisers are very busy just then and it could be harder for you to discuss what you should do with your money.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Nearly \$14 million for research projects in N.L.

The federal government announced Sunday \$13.8 million under the Atlantic Innovation Fund for seven R&D projects in Newfoundland and Labrador. Memorial University will receive a total of \$9.6 million for five projects. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Workology

Program ups Indian enrolment

A new program between Citizenship and Immigration Canada and the Association of Canadian Community Colleges is being credited for doubling the acceptance rate of Indian students coming to study at a select group of Canadian colleges. Launched in April, the Student Partners Program aims to increase the approval rate of study permit applications at 20 participating colleges. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

EDITOR: DOUGLAS.DUNLOP@METRONEWS.CA

40 people, 40 tastes, 40 dishes

Working the Wok

For the month of February, Metro's Workology section will be focusing on some delicious food-related careers. Check back every Wednesday for a new feature.

JON TATTRIE
for Metro Canada

The best part of cooking for a living is the thrill of a busy kitchen and a restaurant full of customers. It's also the worst part, if you're at the end of a 108-hour week.

Jimmy Dao, chef at the popular Talay Thai restaurant in downtown Halifax, cranks out 18-hour days six days a week in peak times, but if he wants to complain to the boss, he has to find a mirror: He owns the business with his family.

"It's very stressful and very busy. Never ending,"



While being a chef can offer you unbridled creativity in the kitchen, it can also be an incredibly busy job.

he says. "When it's busy, it's a good sign and you're happy, but tired. You feel excited when everything is moving around — it's like exercise."

Dao trained on the job, working in restaurants in Moncton, Montreal and Toronto before opening Ta-

lay Thai five years ago. The long and unsociable hours mean he doesn't see his two-year-old son as much as he'd like, but it's the price he pays for doing a job he loves.

"I hope I can continue another 20 years," he says.

John Higgins, director of

the Chef School at George Brown College in Toronto, agrees that killer hours are one of the big downsides to cooking for a living.

"Cooking is a tough job. You're on your feet all day, there's pressures, deadlines, customers," he says. "You get 40 customers and

you've got 40 different taste palates and you're only as good as your last meal."

The good news is the industry is expanding, meaning jobs at not just hotels and restaurants, but also golf courses, casinos, catering firms and venues like the Air Canada Centre.

Companies like Unilever also hire chefs, offering the elusive nine-to-five cooking job.

George Brown College offers a one-year chef training certificate or a two-year culinary management diploma. Year one covers the basic skills needed to work in the food-service industry, like hygiene, tool use and cooking styles. Year two takes those skills deeper. The training is half hands-on, half theory. Theory covers the science of cooking. A lamb chop, for example, can be cooked with radiated heat on a grill, but ox tail has to be cooked much longer because the connective tissue of the collagen takes a few hours to break down.

The hands-on side lets the budding chefs loose in the school's 14 state-of-the-art kitchens, where recipes take a back seat to skills.

For more of the Working the Wok exclusive series check out Workology every Wednesday or stop by: metronews.ca/work

When humour on the job is necessary

Dragons' Den

Dianne Buckner

metronews.ca/dragonsden

Humour in the workplace — there are big benefits to having a laugh at work, but joking around can also be risky.

We all love to have some fun in our working lives. And there are often opportunities to make light of challenges and crack a good joke, especially when team members share triumphs and failures on a daily basis.

And there's no question that one of the reasons Dragons' Den is so popular, is that every Dragon has a well-developed sense of humour. A couple of weeks ago Kevin told two young girls pitching for investment that he can only tell the truth about bad busi-



Kevin O'Leary with his Dragon doll from Happy Nappy Diaper Service.

ness ideas, because he was once hit by a lightning bolt. "Is that what happened to your hair?" asked Robert.

"Maybe that's why you're not tall," zinged Brett.

And this week a woman pitches for investment in her baby-related business by giving every Dragon a doll to hold.

"Give me your baby," Arlene says to Kevin. "I want to spank it."

They like to have fun in their workplace — and who doesn't?

But humour can also be risky. Obviously jokes about race or sex or religion are unwelcome, and sometimes even an innocent

joke can go wrong.

As a teenager I worked at The Bay. For some reason, if one of my co-workers returned from a break and asked if anyone had called, I would say "Yes, the boss phoned. You're fired."

I know — it's not funny — but what can I say? I was a goofy 17 year old! Luckily

they knew it, and usually at least smiled at my kidding around.

But one time, a salesman I'll call Bill returned from lunch and asked if there were any calls. Pretending to be reading from a message on the desk, I made my usual crack. "Yeah the boss says to tell you you're fired".

Bill's face fell — he looked like he'd seen a ghost. "I'm kidding, I'm kidding!" I blurted, apologizing as fast as I could. Bill was relieved, but definitely seemed shaken as he returned to the sales floor.

The next week I heard that Bill had been fired. I realized that he'd probably been told he was on probation, and my stupid "joke" sounded very real to him. Needless to say, I felt awful.

And it taught me a lesson. I still love to be playful and good-humoured at work, but I am careful to do so in good taste.

Dianne Buckner is the host of Dragons' Den and the weekend anchor on the CBC News Network. Watch Dragons' Den at 8 p.m. tonight on CBC.

Workology in brief

OCUFA CONFERENCE EXAMINES RECESSION'S IMPACT ON UNIVERSITIES

The Ontario Confederation of University Faculty Associations held a conference late last month titled Financing Higher Education in the Current Economic Climate, bringing together speakers from universities, research institutes, governments, and the private sector in Canada and the U.S. The conference was designed to reflect on the current downturn's impact on universities, examine trends in PSE financing, and consider implications for the future.

AUCC TO HOLD SYMPOSIUM ON NORTH-SOUTH PARTNERSHIPS

National and international experts will gather in Ottawa today and Wednesday for a symposium hosted by the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada to discuss key issues, challenges, and best practices for North-South partnerships in relation to universities' internationalization efforts. The symposium will feature new research from AUCC, guest speakers from the South, plenary sessions, and discussion.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

The Nissan Leaf electric car has been named Green Car Journal's 2010 Green Car Vision Award winner at The Washington Auto Show. The innovative Leaf is scheduled to go on sale later this year. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Metro Drive



Michelin plugs in

Michelin has unveiled a new prototype tire designed specifically for battery-powered electric vehicles, providing automakers with benefits including increased range or the ability to reduce the battery size to optimize interior space. **CANADIANDRIVER.COM**

EDITOR: KUMAR SAHA, KUMAR.SAHA@METRONEWS.CA

Tucson tough enough

Hyundai SUV's got what it takes to stand out in the crowd

JIL MCINTOSH
for Metro Canada

Introduce a new model into a crowded segment, and it needs to be good or it won't survive. With an all-new Tucson for 2010, Hyundai has a solid entry among compact SUVs.

The outgoing model, which was showing its age, came with a choice of four-cylinder or V6. The 2010 model has only one engine, an all-new 2.4-litre, which at 176 horsepower is stronger than the V6 it replaces. The base model, at \$22,999, uses a six-speed manual. All others come with a six-speed automatic, at prices ranging from \$24,299 to a high of \$34,449, which is top-end Limited trim further optioned with a navigation system and Hyundai's first-ever panoramic sunroof.

An all-wheel-drive system, optional on the two lower trim lines (except for the stick shift) and standard on the Limited runs primarily in front-wheel-drive, but can send 50 percent power to the rear when necessary. At low speeds, it can also be locked into 50/50, handy for getting out of snowy drive-ways.

The ride is stable and pleasant, helped by front coil springs that slant sideways to keep the vehicle level on hard turns. The electric steering is tuned for a fairly organic feel, and the turning radius is spin-on-a-dime sharp. For all that, the steering wheel snaps



2010 Hyundai Tucson

Type: Compact SUV
Price: from \$22,999
Engine: 2.4L
HP: 176

Highlights

- Stable ride
- Roomier interior with better design and materials

sharply back to centre after a turn, as if it's spring-loaded: handy in parking lots, but annoying on the road.

Although it weighs 29 kilograms less, the new model is slightly larger than the outgoing version, and is very roomy inside, even in

the second row. The dash design is night-and-day over the old model, with metallic accents, textured plastics, and blue backlighting. All models include air conditioning, six airbags, whiplash-reducing active front head restraints, and electronic stability control.

Two new features for Tucson are hill start assist, which holds the trucklet on inclines for two seconds while you make your way from brake to throttle, and hill descent control which, when activated, keeps the speed to about 8 km/h. You won't find much use for it in the city, but cottage dwellers may appreciate it when getting across steep trails.



The 2010 Hyundai Tucson features a powerful 2.4L engine with 176 horsepower and improved interior design.

The engine's good enough that you won't feel any need for a V6. Unusually for a four-cylinder, stomping on the throttle for passing simply produces linear power, without any accompanying roar or

whine. The six-speed automatic is well-matched to it, without any gear hunting on hills. Frugal drivers will also appreciate that its published fuel consumption figures are among the best of all of its competitors.



Honda's solar hydrogen station prototype.

Hydrogen at home

TECH Honda recently began operation of a next-generation solar hydrogen station prototype at the Los Angeles Center of Honda R&D Americas, intended for ultimate use as a home refueling appliance capable of an overnight refill of fuel cell electric vehicles.

Designed as a single, integrated unit to fit in the user's garage, Honda's next-generation Solar Hydrogen Station reduces the size of the system, while producing enough hydrogen (0.5kg) via an eight-hour overnight fill for daily commuting (16,000 kilometres per year) for a fuel cell electric vehicle.

The previous solar hydrogen station system required both an electrolyzer and a separate compressor unit to create high pressure hydrogen. The compressor was the largest and most expensive component and reduced system efficiency.

By creating a new high differential pressure electrolyzer, Honda engineers were able to eliminate the compressor entirely — a world's first for a home use system.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Auto show like Vitamin D in winter

AutoPilot

Mike Goetz

metronews.ca/autopilot

ots of sobering auto news of late... Many pedestrians at the sharp end of run-ins with motorists... Toyota fixing

quite a lot of gas pedals... Ontario ends its grace period for cellphoning while driving and begins to hand out \$150 "reminders."

Time for some auto escapism.

I thought our buddy James Cameron would have helped out here. Given his ground breaking film technology, he could have gave his Avatar people some really fantastical motorized rides, but nooooo... He goes all mythical creature-like, which is

so last century.

But we can reliably secure our fix for things shiny and mechanical, at one of this winter's auto shows. Montreal starts the Canadian auto show season off with a bang in early January, followed by Edmonton later in the month, Toronto next week, Calgary in mid-March, and Vancouver in late March. There are lots of great regional shows as well.

Any will do. As long as it's indoors, where the

cars stay shiny, and the "presenters" never seem to age.

It's one of the rare places where one can receive the automotive equivalent of Vitamin D during the dark days of winter.

Auto shows are nice reminders that dream cars actually do exist in the flesh. You can touch them, and in some cases, plant your butt in the driver's seat.

It might be a bit rich to call auto show meandering as "living in the moment"



Playboy centrefold Marilyn Hanold poses with the Jaguar E-type coupe at the 1961 New York Auto Show. Auto shows have always been a hub of entertainment and information, our columnist says.

but I'm pretty sure it's close to it, probably on the same road, and I heartily recommend it.

Michael Goetz has been writing about cars and editing automotive publications for over 20 years. He lives in Toronto with his family and a neglected 1967 Jaguar E-type.

Cars improve crash test ratings

New designs have helped the 2010 Ford Mustang convertible, Acura MDX and Toyota Tundra to improve their ratings in crash tests performed by the U.S. Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS). CANADIANDRIVER.COM

Bargain luxury

JUSTIN PRITCHARD
for Metro Canada



MODEL: 2005 to 2007 Ford Five Hundred
VEHICLE TYPE: Large Sedan
APPROXIMATE USED PRICE RANGE: \$9,000 to \$17,000

HISTORY/DESCRIPTION:

Ford launched its Five Hundred as a 2005 model that fell into a re-energized American sedan marketplace. A big and comfortable "sofa sedan," the Five Hundred was Ford's answer to Chrysler's stately and handsome 300.

After 2007, Ford dropped the Five Hundred nameplate and baffled the media and customers by renaming their large sedan the Taurus.

So, why consider the first-generation Five Hundred as a used ride? Those after a big, comfortable car will find it less expensive than comparable models like the Toyota Avalon, as well as larger than machines like the Chevrolet Impala. If it's a spacious, easy-to-drive and accommodating ride you're after, the Five Hundred should prove fairly cost-effective.

Look for standard V6 power, available All Wheel Drive (AWD), power adjustable leather seats, an auto-dimming rearview mirror, power adjustable pedals and backup radar. Wood trim, a CD changer and a sunroof were also available.

In the used market,

more basic Five Hundred models were badged as SE, while the SEL and Limited trim levels identified mid and top-range models, respectively.

WHAT OWNERS LIKE: Owners of the Five Hundred typically report satisfaction with the outward visibility, generous space at each seat, and a solid, planted and heavy ride. Another positive, say most owners, is a tall, commanding and nearly SUV-like view of the road ahead. Finally, the Five Hundred's safety ratings impressed many family-minded drivers.

WHAT OWNERS

HATE: Owner complaints tend to deal with controversial styling, no optional engine upgrade, and acceptable, but unexciting performance in the acceleration department. Many owners also dislike the sound and "feel" of the shift-less CVT transmission. These folks will recommend the six-speed automatic every time, and so does this writer.

COMMON ISSUES: The Five Hundred is known for a rear-brake issue, which may create harshness that's apparent through the pedal as the vehicle stops. Be sure to "feel" the car while applying the brakes at various pressures and speeds, questioning any strange rough or grinding sensations.

Listen to the rear suspension for any metallic

clacking or clunking sounds over bumps. This could indicate a worn out suspension component or the need for a revised style of shock absorber.

Trouble starting in the cold may require reprogramming of the engine computer, and a buzzing or hissing noise from the speakers can be caused by electrical interference from the fuel pump. This

The Ford Five Hundred



problem is fixed with a simple electronic filter wired into the circuit.

Ensure all interior electronics are working properly, paying special attention

to the automatic climate control, motorized seat controls and all windows.

Second Gear

Wheat's seat connection

JIL MCINTOSH
for Metro Canada



The quest for "green" vehicles is far more than just fuel consumption or emissions: What goes into a car can be just as important as what comes out of it. That's the reason why Ford Flex contains a revolutionary new plastic that's reinforced with wheat straw.

"We can use the chopped straw to replace some of the pure polypropylene, so we're replacing a petroleum product," says Dr. Leonardo Simon, associate professor in the department of chemical engineering at the University of Waterloo, where the plastic was developed.

"Or we can use it to re-

place mineral fillers like glass fibre or talc. Those are twice as heavy as wheat straw, so you're saving weight."

Ford currently uses the plastic on the 2010 Flex's third-row storage bin. The company says that with this application alone, it is reducing petroleum use by more than 9,000 kg per year, and is creating a market for wheat straw, the leftover stalks once wheat is harvested.

"We developed this plastic in 2004, through a grant funded by the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture," Simon says.

"A colleague at the University of Guelph invited me to participate in the grant. The challenge was to improve value for farmers."

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Travel

EDITOR: BEN.RYCROFT@METRONWS.CA



Heading south for the winter?

Interstate 75 and the 401 is a unique and comprehensive guide that covers Ontario Highway 401 to the U.S. border at Detroit then south along the I-75 to Florida. A quick reference section by exit shows details for gas stations, restaurants and lodgings, with plenty of interesting side trips to sites nearby. As a bonus, there are 300 coupons worth over \$2,000 for restaurants, inns, motels, campgrounds, gas stations, historic sites, amusement parks and other sites.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Untouched beauty found in Faroes

Visitors tread carefully as these tiny islands rank among world's best for sustainable tourism

ANNE SOPHIE TEBLORG
Metro World News

From a ledge on a rock the red-beaked puffin takes flight.

Below it lie the panorama of green hillsides, villages, foaming waterfalls and grass-roofed houses that make up the least spoilt island group in the world.

The bird land on the statue of local hero Nólseyar Páll, and here, in the capital city, life and nature meet on equal terms. But when you move away from Torshavn and out among the scattered villages, you get a real impression of how wild these islands can be.

More than 75,000 sheep live here and they obviously feel that they have a right to walk down even the busiest of roads at their own pace. A trip out to look at the birds on the cliffs is a must when you are on the Faroe Islands.

This is a paradise for ornithologists and amateurs alike and the colonies of puffins on the cliff ledges are a delight as are the seals and whales which come up for air just offshore.

From a boat nature is even more breathtaking. The cliffs seem higher and the sea seems bigger.

However you see the Faroes you will find everyone is a friendly tour guide.



In 2007, National Geographic ranked the Faroe Islands as the most unspoiled island destination on the planet.

Faroe facts

- The Faroe Islands consist of 18 islands, of which 17 are inhabited — though two of the islands only have one family living on the whole place
- The islands are known for their rich animal life, but there are few insects and no mosquitoes.
- The sea around the islands is the primary source of income, and all Faroese own a boat.
- The Faroese love to dance, and at the annual Saint Olav's Day Festival in July the islanders take a few days off work and dance and party for several days in the capital.

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The Faroe Islands are home to the world's smallest capital city. Torshavn has a population of 19,000.

SUSTAINABLE TOURISM

The Faroe Islands was honoured in 2007 by National Geographic as it conducted a comprehensive survey of 111 island communities throughout the world.

A panel of experts in sustainable tourism assessed the Faroe Islands and rated them on a list of the most unspoiled.

They were rated ahead of the Azores, Lofoten and exotic islands such as Bermuda and Hawaii.

The islands continue to earn high marks for preservation of nature, historic architecture and local pride.

However, National Geographic readers that it was necessary to "tread carefully" in order not to destroy the very places that are cherished, especially on the islands of a more modest size. Tourists are ex-

pected to do as the Faroese, such as travelling on the rolling ferries with caution and hiking their way through all sorts of weather.

Nevertheless, as the expert panel concluded, where there is a strong sense of identity and cultural heritage, there is a solid foundation for sensible development.

TRY THE WHALE

Lamb, not surprisingly, features quite prominently on the menu but the Faroese are keen on introducing tourists to the blubber of the Long-finned Pilot Whale. It comes with a serious health warning though — catching Pilot Whales and eating their meat is soon to be history because of high levels of mercury in the sea.

Officially the Faroese are advised against putting it on the menu but tradition-

al dishes can still be enjoyed in the small village of Gjógv, 67 kms from the capital.

GRASS ROOFTOPS

The grass roofs on the Faroese Houses are probably the first things you'll notice, and these have been a feature since they were first settled. In the Viking Age farmhouses, with its curved stone walls, the roof was supported by two rows of posts in a large common room with a long-fire in the centre.

Along the outer walls benches or seats were placed and a Faroese home today is still called a sethús (seat house) after these seats. And there is a good reason that the ancient name has survived, for on the Faroes the original longhouse lasted longer than any other place in Scandinavia.

Gauge if you're being gouged

To avoid being gouged at the rental car gas pump try GasBuddy.com, a free service that provides real-time information on the lowest gas prices in your local area. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

travel **19**

Belize's underwater wonders

The West's longest unbroken barrier reef has creatures of all kinds

It was a dark, rainy, grey day. We don't go for monochrome excursions during our tropical adventures, so this kind of day was not acceptable.

Nonetheless, my two teenage children and I were going to make the best of our snorkeling trip along the Belize Barrier Reef, the longest unbroken reef in the Western Hemisphere. We were near the island of Caye Caulker, which is situated just off the coast of Belize. The search for a diverse palette was our mission with our boat captain guide, Harry Woods of E-Z Boys Tours.

So, onward down into the water we dove. Looking up, we found a ceiling of rain droplets falling from the sky, patterned on the ocean surface. But our aqua world below offered a rainbow of hues.

We saw creatures of all shapes and sizes, travelling mostly in groups, though a few, like the moray eel, cautiously ventured out alone from their homes in the coral. And back they'd



Tropical adventures await in Belize Barrier Reef.

retreat as soon as they had satiated their curiosity about us.

We gingerly tiptoed by stingrays and swam lightly through the many schools

\$80 There are several snorkeling tour operators across Belize offering a variety of options on the basic tour experience but the majority will offer trips that include lunch, a few drinks and guided lessons for \$80. As it is with anything, the more you pay the more you get.

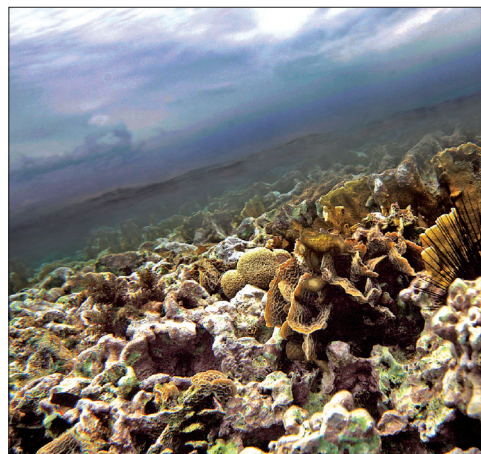
of fish, never once feeling like an intruder. Some schools tucked themselves behind strands of coral while others boldly glided about.

Our temporary visit almost appeared humorous to the fish whose mouths were permanently fixed in a grin.

A shark took a look while cruising by us while porpoises playfully swam alongside the boat as they frolicked about, almost inviting us to join them.

As we made our way back to the boat, the merging of sea and sky seemed dreamlike, and the grey gave way to sun.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Belize's Barrier Reef is the longest in the Western Hemisphere.

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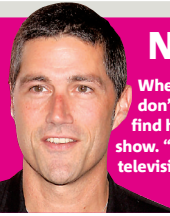
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On Monday afternoon, an impressive list of stars — including Celine Dion, Jennifer Hudson, Justin Bieber and Kanye West — began arriving at the Jim Henson Studios in Hollywood to re-record the classic charity single We Are the World, this time for Haiti earthquake relief. USMAGAZINE.COM

Entertainment

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA



No more TV

When *Lost* wraps up this May, don't expect Matthew Fox to find himself on another TV show. "I won't be doing any more television," the star, 43, says.

USMAGAZINE.COM

Avatar, Locker lead Oscar race

Hollywood Votes

Academy Awards

The science-fiction sensation *Avatar* and the war-on-terror thriller *The Hurt Locker* lead the Academy Awards with nine nominations each, including best picture and director for former spouses James Cameron and Kathryn Bigelow.

For the first time since 1943 the Oscars feature 10 best-picture contenders instead of the usual five.

Also nominated for best-picture yesterday: District 9; the animated comedy *Up*; the Second World War saga *Inglourious Basterds*; the football drama *The Blind Side*; the recession tale *Up in the Air*, the 1960s drama *A Serious Man*, and the teen tales *An Education* and *Precious*: Based on the Novel *Push* by Sapphire.

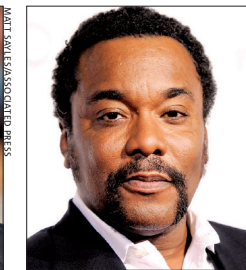
Acting nominees include the four stars who have dominated early awards shows: Lead players Sandra Bullock for the football drama *The Blind Side* and Jeff Bridges for the country-music tale *Crazy Heart* and supporting performers Mo'Nique for *Precious* and Christoph Waltz for *Inglourious Basterds*.

The best-picture and director categories shape up as a showdown between ex-spouses who directed films that have dominated earlier Hollywood honours.

Cameron's *Avatar* won best drama and director at



James Cameron's sci-fi blockbuster *Avatar* is nominated for nine Academy Awards, including best picture.



Academy Award nominees announced yesterday include, from left, Jeff Bridges, best actor for *Crazy Heart*, Lee Daniels, best director for *Precious*, Jason Reitman, best director for *Up in the Air*, Kathryn Bigelow, best director for *The Hurt Locker*, and Sandra Bullock, best actress, for *The Blind Side*. Awards will be presented March 7.

the Golden Globes, while Bigelow's *The Hurt Locker* beat out Cameron at the Directors Guild of America Awards, whose recipient usually goes on to earn the

best-director Oscar.

The *Hurt Locker* also beat *Avatar* for the Producers Guild of America top prize and was chosen as last year's best film by

many key critics groups.

Bigelow said she was gratified and humbled.

"It's a huge, huge compliment to the entire cast and crew," she said. "It was a very difficult shoot of heat and sun and windstorms and sandstorms and they had to unite crew from Lebanon and Israel."

Bigelow is only the fourth woman nominated for a directing Oscar. No woman has ever won the directing Oscar, and until Bigelow, no woman had ever won the Directors Guild honour.

Lee Daniels, who made *Precious*, became only the second black filmmaker nominated for best director, after John Singleton for 1991's *Boyz n the Hood*.

There will also be some competition among Cana-

dians in the directing category. Montreal-born director Jason Reitman, nominated for *Up in the Air* will compete against Cameron, who was born in Kaposkasing, Ont.

Rounding out the directing category is Quentin Tarantino for *Inglourious Basterds*.

Vancouver-based Neill Blomkamp and Terri Tatchell, meanwhile, are nominated for best adapted screenplay for *District 9*.

Bullock is up against past Oscar winners Meryl Streep as chef Julia Child in *Julie & Julia* and Helen Mirren as Leo Tolstoy's bullheaded wife in *The Last Station*, along with first-time nominees Carey Mulligan as a British teen involved with an older man in *An Education* and

Gabourey Sidibe as a Harlem teen overcoming horrible abuse and neglect in *Precious*.

Also nominated for best actor are past Oscar winners George Clooney as a frequent-flyer junkie in *Up in the Air* and Morgan Freeman as South African leader Nelson Mandela in *Invictus*, Colin Firth as a grieving gay academic in *A Single Man* and Jeremy Renner as a bomb disposal expert in *The Hurt Locker*. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Following news stories on Twitter...

OscarTweets

@666300 I think Cold Souls deserved a nomination. Paul Giamatti delivered another excellent performance. Watchmen was not nominated for ANYTHING? How did *Inglourious Basterds* get passed up for a Costume Design nomination?

@NFB_Jennifer snubbed: Sharlto Copley from *District 9*. Had barely acted before and he carried the film ... absolutely riveting.

@carr2n And Lee Daniels deserves director nom for seeing in *Precious* what no one else saw.

@LarsenOnFilm The Cove gets a deserving Oscar nod as Best Documentary. Probably one of the most disturbing docs I've seen.

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Scan this barcode or visit metronews.ca/entertainment for a complete list of Academy Award nominees

No more Mr. Nice Guy

Travolta reflects on new ruthless role and a 37-year career

PHIL BROWN
for Metro Canada

Whether it's strutting his stuff to the Bee Gees, munching down a Royal With Cheese with Samuel L. Jackson, or swapping faces with Nicholas Cage, John Travolta has provided audiences with a laundry list of memorable movie moments.

Over a 37-year career, Travolta has become one of the most recognizable faces in film. But when looking back on his early work, the actor admits that he can barely recognize himself.

"I see a little boy in those movies," Travolta says. "I thought I was very advanced in those days, but I know much more now. I was lucky to start in this industry with a bang and I'm even luckier to still be here."

This week audiences may see a side of Travolta they never expected in *From Paris With Love*. The star plays a ruthless special agent with no qualms about



John Travolta, left, plays a special agent in *From Paris With Love*.

shooting first without ever getting to the questions.

"It's a pretty extreme character. I don't think anyone has seen me quite this way before and that was the reason to do it," says Travolta. "We decided that the only way it would work was to be bold with the character and go all the way."

No matter how violent or over-the-top his character might be, Travolta was never worried about harming his nice-guy image. "It wasn't a concern because he's not really a villain. He's a good guy with unorthodox

methods."

The movie is an all-out action thriller ride filled with car chases, gunfights, explosions, and at least one rocket launcher. Surprisingly the 55-year-old actor ended up doing most of his own stunts on the project.

"When we started I said to (director) Pierre Morel, 'Do you really want me to do all of these stunts because I'm an old man?'" says Travolta. "But there was such a confidence there

that I thought I'd better to live up to their expectations and really went for it. It paid off because I've never done this much action in a movie before."

From *Paris With Love* also gave Travolta the opportunity to change his appearance, shaving his head and growing a goatee for the role. A jarring look that the actor and director claim they got from photos of special agents in *Soldier Of Fortune* magazine.

Audiences are sure to be caught off guard, but that's what the actor hoped for and it reminded him of his approach to one of his most famous roles.

"It was similar to Pulp Fiction where it was my idea to do that Dutch Boy thing," says Travolta. "The character had just been in Europe, so I thought it would be an appropriate Eurotrash look... In both movies my look is the signature of the character."

From Paris With Love opens on Friday

HA	H	D	B	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	
23/10	31	31	31	ABC	News Center 5	World News	Inside Edition	Chronicle	Modern Family	The Middle (N)	Modern Family	Cougar Town	Ugly Betty (N)
	7	7	7	ASN	The Road to Avonlea		Degrassi	TMZ (N)	Old Christine	The Middle (N)	Hope Floats * (1998, Romance)		
	11	11	11	CBC	Wheel Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Dragons' Den (HDTV) (N)	Republic of Doyle (DVS)		CBC News: The National		The Hour	
	2	2	2	CBC-F	Pyramide (SC)	Union-Force	Virginie (SC)	L'Epicerie	Le Moment de vérité (SC)	Mirador (HDTV) (N) (SC)		Le Téléjournal	
	32	32	32	CBS	WBZ News (N)	Evening News	Wheel Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Super Bowl-Commercials	Criminal Minds (N)		CSI: NY	
	69	69	69	CFTM	TVA nouvelles	Le Cercle (SC)	Poule-oeufs or	Les Gags	Destinées (HDTV) (N) (SC)	Dr. House (SC)		TVI nouvelles	
	6	6	6	CHMF	Entertainment	ET Canada	The Deep End (N)		Bones (HDTV) (N)	Kitchen Nightmares (N)		News Final (N)	
	9	9	9	CJCH	etalk	Access H.	CSI: NY "Sanguine Love"		Criminal Minds (N)	American Idol (HDTV) (N)		CTV News	
	10	10	10	ELTV	Swap Shop (Live)		Fuelin' Around	Au Natural (N)	Doc Talk (N)	Fuelin' Around		Community Matters	
	36	36	36	FOX	Seinfeld	The Simpsons	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Human Target (HDTV) (N)	American Idol (HDTV) (N)		Fox First	
news	12	12	12	NBC	News (N)	NBC News	Access H.	Extra (N)	Mercy (HDTV) (N)	Law & Order: SVU		Jay Leno Show	
	29	29	29	NW	(6) Power & Politics		Connect Today's biggest stories. (N)			CBC News: The National		Badge of Pride	
	4	4	4	PBS-B	PBS NewsHour (N)		Greater Boston	This Old H'se	Stevie Wonder-White House	The National Parks: America's Best Idea			
	35	35	35	PBS-D	PBS NewsHour (N)		State of the State	The governor of Michigan.	Mackinac Isl.	The National Parks: America's Best Idea			
	68	68	68	TQS	Guerre clans	Le Mur	Merlin (N) (SC)		Flashpoint (SC)	Terminator: Les Chroniques		Wipe Out	
	23	96	96	BNN	Business News	Headline	Market Call Tonight		The Close	Market Call	Squeeze Play	Business News	
	18	18	18	CNN	(6) The Situation	Room With Wolf	Blitzer (N)		Campbell Brown (N)	Larry King Live (N)		Cooper 360	
	54	54	54	GOLF	Golf Central	Play Lessons	19th Hole (HDTV) (Live)		Golf Videos	Golf Videos	Top 10 (N)	Top 10 (HDTV)	19th Hole
	52	52	52	RSE	Connected W-Prime Time		NHL Hockey Ottawa Senators at Buffalo Sabres. (HDTV) (Live)					Overtime	Sportsnet Con.
	55	55	55	SCOR	HSR	Covers Experts	College Basketball DePaul at Marquette. (Live)				College Basketball	Kansas at Colorado. (Live)	
sports	45	45	45	SPD	Unique Whips		Pass Time	NASCAR Hub	Dangerous Drives (HDTV)	Pass Time (N)	Pass Time (N)	Wrecked	
	53	53	53	TSN	SportsCentre	Curling Scoties	Tournament of Hearts. From Kindersley, Sask. (Live)				NHL Hockey: Flyers at Oilers		
	43	43	43	FAM	Han. Montana	Wizards-Place	Sonny Chance	Suite Life	Overruled!	Han. Montana	Wizards-Place	Latest Buzz	Ned's School
	44	44	44	TOON	Jimmy Two	Johnny Test	Scoby-Doo	Total Drama	6TEEN	Futurama	King of the Hill	American Dad	
	26	26	26	TREE	Timmy Time	3rd and Bird	Backyardigans	Night Garden	Max & Ruby	Franklin	Little Bear	Bucket-Dinos	Babar
	27	27	27	YTV	iCarly	To Be Informed	iCarly	That's Weird	Malcolm-Mid.	Hates Chris	8 Simple Rules	What I Like	Family Biz
	16	16	16	A&E	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Dog the Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Steven Seagal	Great Towns
	70	70	70	APTN	APTN National News (N)		Investigates	Front Runner	Wings-Canada	Canadian Geographic			
	50	50	50	BET	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live (Live)				Belly * (1998, Crime Drama) Nas, DMX, Taral Hicks.				
	37	37	37	BRVO	Emily of New Moon		Death at Opera	Bravo/Videos	Arts & Minds	O'Reagan File	Wingfield	Star Portraits	White Collar
family	25	25	25	CMT	The Show (N)	CMT Star	Amer. Funniest Home Videos		Reba	According/Jim	According/Jim	Home Improve.	
	49	49	49	COM	Just for Laughs		Air Force	22 Minutes	Corner Gas	Name Is Earl	The Simpsons	South Park	Little Britain
	153	153	153	COURT	Situation Critical		The Investigators		Cops Uncut	Dumb Criminal	Declassified	Investigators	
	38	38	38	DISC	Canada's Worst Driver		Daily Planet (N)		The Colony (N)		License to Drill	Mayday	
	34	34	34	HGTV	Extreme Makeover: Home		House Hunters	Property Virgin	Agent-Agent	Intervention	Property Virgin	Unsellable	House Hunters
	46	46	46	HIST	Re-Inventors	Re-Inventors	Ice Pilots NWT (N)		Nostradamus Effect (N)		Ice Road Truckers	Ice Pilots NWT	
	17	17	17	MM	America's Best Dance Crew		Make It or Break It		disBAND (N)	Video on Trial	Degrassi: TNG	Degrassi: TNG	My Date With...
	19	19	19	MMM	mmtop10.ca		The Daily Fix		Ranked!		G. Simmons	Gene Simmons	Entourage
	201	201	201	M1	(6:55) Night Train (2009, Suspense)			Cyborg Soldier (2008, Science Fiction)			Crank: High Voltage * (2009, Action)		
	48	48	48	OLN	Mantracker		Ghost Hunters Academy		Destination Truth		Operate-Repo	Operate-Repo	Ghost Hunters
cable variety	51	51	51	PEACH	Friends	Name Is Earl	Family Guy	Family Guy	College Basketball Mississippi State at Vanderbilt. (Live)		Law & Order		
	206	206	206	PIX	Dance Me Outside *** (1994, Drama)		Hank Williams: The Show He Never Gave				Mimic *** (1997, Horror) Mira Sorvino.		
	67	67	67	RDI	RDI monde	RDI économie	24 Heures en 60 minutes (SC)		Grands reportages (SC)		Le Téléjournal (SC)		RDI économie
	39	39	39	SHOW	Trailer Park	Trailer Park	Relic Hunter		Blind Trust (2007, Suspense) Jessica Capshaw.				Howl Hunters (N)
	40	40	40	SLICE	What Happen? Wedding SOS		Rich Bride Poor Bride		End of Leash	End of Leash	End of Leash	End of Leash	
	47	47	47	SPACE	Stargate SG-1 Trinity		Stargate Atlantis (DVS)		The Nightmare		Chuck (HDTV) (N)		Supernatural
	14	14	14	SPIKE	Ways to Die	Ways to Die	Ways to Die	Ways to Die	Ways to Die	Ways to Die	Ways to Die	Ways to Die	
	57	98	98	STAR	etalk	TMZ (N)	Look-A-Like	TMZ	The Ellen DeGeneres Show (N)		The View (HDTV) (N)		Dr. Oz Show
	21	21	21	TLC	Say Yes-Dress	Say Yes, Dress	Mystery Diagnosis		Conjoined Twins		I'm Pregnant	I'm Pregnant	Toddler-Tia
	56	34	34	TROP	Project Runway Canada		Rescue Ink "No Bull"		Hoarders "Judi and Gail"				Parking Wars
cable variety	20	20	20	TV5	Que-champion	Journal de Fr2	Verdict		Tout un hiver sans feu				A Table
	28	28	28	V	Emily of New Moon		Murder, She Wrote		No Place Like	Open All Hours	Doc Martin (N)		Unscripted (N)
	60	97	97	VIVA	Da Vinci's Inquest		Cold Case		Missing Jess goes undercover.		The Closer "Blue Blood"		Cold Case
	22	22	22	W	House-Sell	House-Sell	Supernanny		Chef Worthy	Grocery Bag	The Restaurant		Too Young
	251	251	251	WGN	WGN Evening News		Two/Half Men	Family Guy	Life Unexpected (HDTV)		Gossip Girl (HDTV)		WGN News

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Sandra Bullock and her husband Jesse James continue to battle in court with his ex-wife, porn star Janine Lindemulder. The judge denied Lindemulder visitation rights to see Sunny, her six-year-old daughter, E! News reports. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Celebrity Buzz

Follow these celebrities on Twitter...

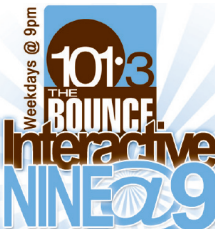
CelebTweets

JOEL MCCHALE doesn't feel like explaining his fashion choices, **LIND-SAY LOHAN** needs tech support, **DEMI MOORE** splits talk-show duties with her husband, and **JOHN CLEESE** shows off his modesty.

@joelmchale I'm wearing short shorts right now. Please don't ask why.
@lindsaylohan HOW DO I UPLOAD A VIDEO! People always say "ask for help if you need it" i am asking!
@mrskutcher Hey just met the Jersey Shore crew! Hubby is going to be so jealous he is over at GMA today instead of the Today Show with me! Hehe!
@JohnCleese May you continue to be fascinated by me, because I really am a wonderful human being.



METRO
WORLD
NEWS



For February 2nd

- 9 Black Eyed Peas - Imma Be
- 8 Hedley - Don't Talk To Strangers
- 7 Young Money Ft Lloyd - Bedrock
- 6 Lady Gaga Ft Beyonce - Telephone
- 5 Girlicious - Over You
- 4 Jason Derulo - In My Head
- 3 Justin Bieber Ft Ludacris - Baby
- 2 Ke\$ha - Blah Blah Blah
- 1 Drake Ft Kevin Cossom - I Get Paper

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kidcraig@1013thebounce.com

1013 THE BOUNCE.com

Says 'no' to 'yes' people

AND 'YES' TO BEYOND-THE-GRAVE GREETINGS Janet Jackson still expects her late brother Michael to call her, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The singer — and younger sister of the Thriller star, who died last June from acute Propofol intoxication, at the age of 50 — says her grief gets easier with every day that passes, but she would do anything to hear him speak again.

"It gets sad sometimes because, I don't know, you think your phone is going to ring and you hear that voice calling your name," she says.

"But, yeah, life goes on and everybody grieves differently. And every day is

different. Some days it's much easier than others."

Jackson, 43, also revealed Michael's untimely passing made her realize she needed to make changes in her life. She said in an interview with

Wonderland magazine, "A lot of people in this industry have a lot of 'yes' people. That I can tell you I do not have.

"A lot has changed in my life this year, a lot of changes, I think I'm kind of heading in a different direction for sure."



METRO
NEWS
SERVICES

Digging Doctor Dolittle

HE UNDERSTANDS WHAT SHE'S SAYING, EVEN IF SHE DOESN'T

At the hospital over the past few days to visit her "Nana," who had a tumour removed Jan. 29, Jessica Simpson has been passing the hours admiring the "cute doctors" — and it looks like they are returning the attention, people.com reports.

On Monday the pop star — who's single again

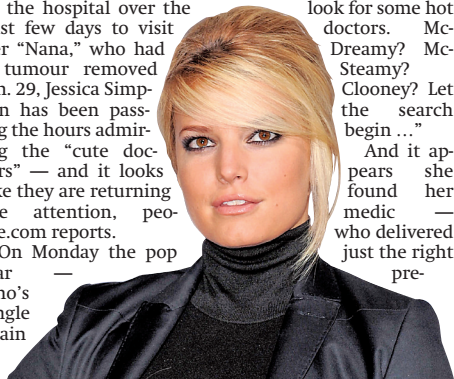
Tweeted, "Bored at the hospital. I think I'm gonna go look for some hot doctors. Mc-Dreamy? Mc-Steamy? Clooney? Let the search begin ..."

And it appears she found her medic — who delivered just the right pre-

scription ... a spelling lesson.

On Jan. 30, Simpson attempted to quote Bob Dylan when she Tweeted, "You can fake an orgasm (sic) but you can't fake laughter." Hours later, however, she clarified her message by saying that she meant "orgasm," not "orgasim."

The fix came, she Tweeted, as a result of "one of the cute doctors here at the hospital informed me of my misspelled tweet. Hmm ... was he hitting on me?"



METRO NEWS SERVICES

Won't be 'Bourne' again

HE'S JUMPING SHIP ... AND NOT GETTING RESCUED BY FISHERMEN THIS TIME AROUND

There won't be a fourth Bourne film starring Matt Damon, at least if he has anything to say about it.

The actor has announced he's done with the successful spy thriller franchise after three films, according to Showbiz Spy.

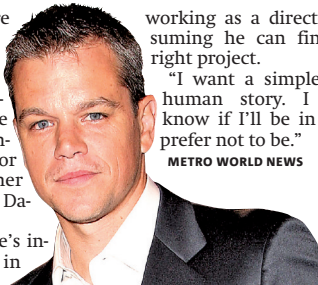
If there will be a fourth film, it will likely be "a prequel of some kind with another actor and another director," Damon says.

Instead, he's interested in

working as a director, assuming he can find the right project.

"I want a simple little human story. I don't know if I'll be in it. I'd prefer not to be."

METRO WORLD NEWS



I had an affair with the dragon

HE SAID IT, NOT ME. SEE WHAT I DID THERE, GERARD?

Gerard Butler admits that he's used to rumours of romance popping up every time he co-stars with someone in

a film, as they have with Jennifer Aniston recently.

But he hopes the rumour mill will give it a rest for his next film, the animated How to Train Your Dragon, in which Butler works with fellow Scotsman

Craig Furgeson.

"I wouldn't be surprised if I was linked to Craig," Butler tells the Daily Record.

"But maybe they'll come up with a way to say I had an affair with the dragon. "Or that I had sex with all of them."

METRO WORLD NEWS



Love is a many-splendored thing

IT'S ALSO A MANY-GENDERED THING

Amy Winehouse is reportedly no stranger to same-sex relationships, but she doesn't see why that should stop her reuniting with ex-husband Blake Fielder-Civil, according to News of the World.

"I have had relationships with other women but that doesn't mean I don't still love Blake," Winehouse tells friends, according to the newspaper.

"There is something about being with a woman that is very satisfying. I don't care what people think about me being (bisexual). I do what feels good."

Winehouse is reportedly no stranger to same-sex relationships, but she doesn't see why that should stop her reuniting with ex-husband Blake Fielder-Civil, according to News of the World.

METRO
WORLD NEWS



O'Neal on the road to rehab

... AGAIN A judge in Los Angeles is sending the troubled son of Ryan O'Neal and the late Farrah Fawcett back to rehab after more than a month in jail.

The judge placed Redmond O'Neal back on probation and sentenced to an intense residential rehab program during a brief hearing Thursday.

The 25-year-old has been jailed since Dec. 29 for violating his probation on a previous drug conviction.

Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Michael Tynan says if O'Neal succeeds at the rehab program, he will then be sent to a sober-living facility.

METRO WORLD NEWS

A woman's intuition

AKA: GOOGLE Katy Perry already had an inkling that Russell Brand was going to pop the question, thanks to the power of the Internet. "Unfortunately, I still Google myself sometimes. I saw it on Google alerts. I'm going to be honest," she tells E! News. Brand had been spotted shopping for engagement rings, with the trip widely reported across the web.

Brand had been spotted shopping for engagement rings, with the trip widely reported across the web.

METRO WORLD
NEWS



etalk's Lainey Lui dishes out celeb dirt in threes



JOHNNY DEPP. Johnny Depp is the reigning People Magazine Sexiest Man Alive and one of the most popular actors in the world. He is also one of the most private. With worldwide career box office earnings totalling more than \$4 billion, Johnny has accumulated a personal fortune that has enabled him to live in relative obscurity in relation to his fame and, in comparison to his peers Brad Pitt and George Clooney, fiercely guard his personal life. Here are three things you might not know about Johnny Depp:



ONE He arrived in Hollywood intending to pursue a record deal with his band. It was Nicolas Cage who persuaded him to become an actor. The two are still friends and Depp was rumoured to have offered to bail Cage out of his recent financial troubles.

TWO Depp developed a close relationship with one of his literary idols, Hunter S. Thompson. When Thompson committed suicide in 2005, Depp paid for most of the memorial, including spending a reported \$2 million to build the casket from which Thompson's ashes were fired.

THREE Depp regularly dresses up as Captain Jack Sparrow, his character from Pirates of the Caribbean, for visits to the children's ward of the hospital where his daughter Lily Rose was once treated for a near-fatal infection. Hospital staff say he always arrives unannounced, leaves without fanfare, and makes sure to spend as much time with as many young fans as possible.

Lainey Lui is a reporter for etalk and runs the popular gossip site, LaineyGossip.com. As part of CTV's Olympic Broadcast Team, Lainey is on the ground in Whistler reporting on entertainment news from the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Winter Games.

etalk

Not my lover

AND THE KID IS NOT MY SON Mexican actor Gael Garcia Bernal is reportedly going through a messy split from longtime girlfriend Dolores Fonzi.

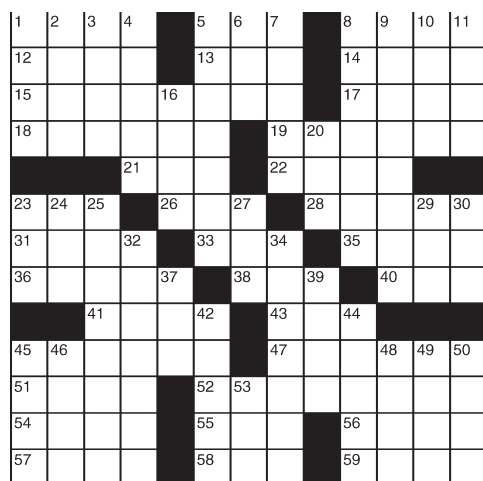
Bernal is demanding a DNA test for their son, Lazaro, according to TyNovelas magazine.

METRO WORLD NEWS



For more delicious Metro recipes, visit: metronews.ca/food

Take Five



ACROSS

- 1 Vicinity
- 5 Inhabitant (Abbr.)
- 8 Detail
- 12 Paper quantity
- 13 Kanga's kid
- 14 Undressed
- 15 No. 51 on the table
- 17 Unforeseen problem
- 18 Sarajevo's land
- 19 Baffler
- 21 Frequently
- 22 Tango moves
- 23 Antonym (Abbr.)
- 26 Teeny tale
- 28 Attack dog, e.g.
- 31 Island dance
- 33 Help
- 35 Ms. Moore
- 36 "The final frontier"
- 38 Support system?
- 40 Gist
- 41 Brass

- instrument
- 43 Mischief-maker
- 45 Scales
- 47 Buccaneer
- 51 Top-notch
- 52 No. 1 on the table
- 54 Whirled
- 55 Listener
- 56 Monetary supply
- 57 Fixes a skirt
- 58 Agent
- 59 Collections

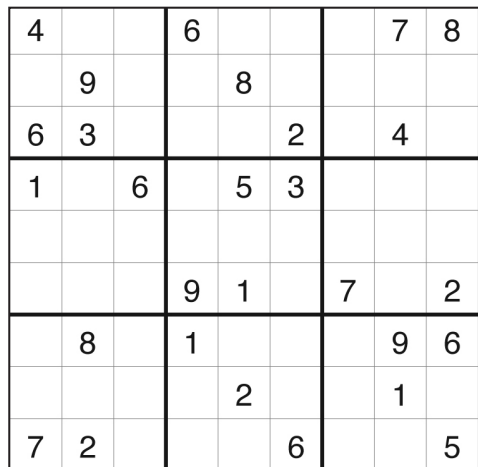
DOWN

- 1 Bedouin
- 2 Nevada city
- 3 Dines on
- 4 Acid type
- 5 Zagreb's land
- 6 Charged bit
- 7 Tinkered (with)
- 8 Flat
- 9 No. 74 on the table
- 10 Cheese choice
- 11 Ginormous
- 16 Irk
- 20 Penpoint
- 23 Surprise cries
- 24 Young seal
- 25 No. 78 on the table
- 27 Chest protector
- 29 Ostrich's cousin
- 30 Umbrella-frame part
- 32 Keen senses of judgment
- 34 Hang on the line, maybe
- 37 Recede
- 39 Eastern bigwig
- 42 Fireplace residue
- 44 Campus staffers
- 45 Money
- 46 Bound along
- 48 Chills and fever
- 49 Bivouac setup
- 50 Make — meet
- 53 Mouth, slangily

Sudoku

For more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit metronews.ca

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone — one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.



PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:



9	3	4	2	8	5	6	1	7
5	8	7	9	1	6	4	2	3
6	2	1	3	4	7	8	9	5
3	7	8	1	9	2	5	4	6
1	6	9	5	7	4	2	3	8
2	4	5	6	3	8	1	7	9
7	9	6	4	5	1	3	8	2
8	1	2	7	6	3	9	5	4
4	5	3	8	2	9	7	6	1



Horoscopes by Sally Brompton sallybrompton.com

For Sally's expanded daily and weekend horoscopes, visit metronews.ca

ARIES
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
Do something that even by your standards is a bit over the top. You need to remind yourself that sometimes life can be taken too seriously.

TAURUS
APRIL 21-MAY 21
You may be having your doubts about a commitment that only a short while ago you thought was the best thing you had ever signed up to.

LIBRA
SEPT 23-OCT 23
Everything will go well for you today so long as you don't get distracted by things that are of no real importance.

SCORPIO
OCT 24-NOV 22
If someone offers you their help you should think long and hard before accepting. Will there be something you have to do for them in return?

GEMINI
MAY 22-JUNE 21
Something will not work out the way you expected today but don't sweat it because it does not matter that much.

SAGITTARIUS
NOV 23-DEC 21
If you don't know why a loved one is acting a little bit cold towards you it is probably because you have said or done something they do not approve of.

CANCER
JUNE 22-JULY 22
Something will happen over the next few days that compels you to reconsider a belief or opinion you have never had cause to question before.

CAPRICORN
DEC 22-JAN 20
According to the planets you have been working too hard and need to go easier on yourself over the next few days.

LEO
JULY 23-AUG 23
What you are about to do may not be to everyone's tastes but you are not doing it for them, you are doing it for you, and nothing else matters.

AQUARIUS
JAN 21-FEB 18
Chances are you have allowed too many people to get away with too many things in recent weeks.

VIRGO
AUG 24-SEPT 22
As a Virgo you are so well organized, but not everyone is as in control of their lives as you are, so make allowances.

PISCES
FEB 19-MARCH 20
Don't expect people you deal with today, at home or at work, to think logically or act in predictable ways.

This day in history

- 1488 — Bartolomeu Dias of Portugal lands in Mossel Bay after rounding the Cape of Good Hope, becoming the first known European to travel so far south.
- 1690 — The colony of Massachusetts issues the first paper money in America.
- 1783 — American Revolutionary War: Spain recognizes United States independence.
- 1916 — Parliament buildings in Ottawa burn down.
- 1966 — The unmanned Soviet Luna 9 spacecraft makes the first controlled rocket-assisted landing on the Moon.

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06 RAM 1500 SLT

PW, PL, PM, A/C,
4X4, Quad Cab,
54,000km



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09 TOYOTA COROLLA CE

PW, PL, PM, Sunroof,
A/C, Speed Control,
44,000km



\$14,995 OR \$61* PER WEEK

08 KIA MAGENTIS

PW, PL, PM, Sunroof, Heated
Seats, A/C, Speed Control,
28,000km,
Ext-Warranty



\$16,995 OR \$72* PER WEEK

06 JEEP GR CHEROKEE

PW, PL, PM, V8, Trailer
Tow, 63,000km,



\$18,995 OR \$99+ PER WEEK

NEW INVENTORY JUST ARRIVED

09 JEEP LIBERTY LTD

PW, PL, PM, V6,
4x4, Leather,
Heated Seats,
7,000km



\$24,995 OR \$99* PER WEEK

06 JEEP TJ SE

4x4, 5 Speed,
CD, 58,000km



\$14,995 OR \$80* PER WEEK

09 JEEP GR CHEROKEE

PW, PL, PM, A/C,
4x4, 6 Cly,
22,000km



\$124,995 OR \$99* PER WEEK

09 DODGE NITRO SXT 4X4

PW, PL, PM, V6, 4x4,
6 Cly, 18,000km



\$22,995 OR \$92* PER WEEK

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09 DODGE DURANGO SLT

PW, PL, PM, 4X4,
Heated Seat,
Leather,
7,000km



\$30,995 OR \$124* PER WEEK

08 JEEP PATRIOT 4X4

5 Speed, 4x4,
A/C, 48,000km



\$16,995 OR \$68* PER WEEK

08 CHEVROLET TRAILBLAZER

PW, PL, PM, A/C, 4x4, Speed
Control, 47,000km



\$22,995 OR \$92* PER WEEK

06 CHEVROLET SILVERADO 4X4

PW, PL, PM, Speed Control,
68,000km, Reg Cab Long Box



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